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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

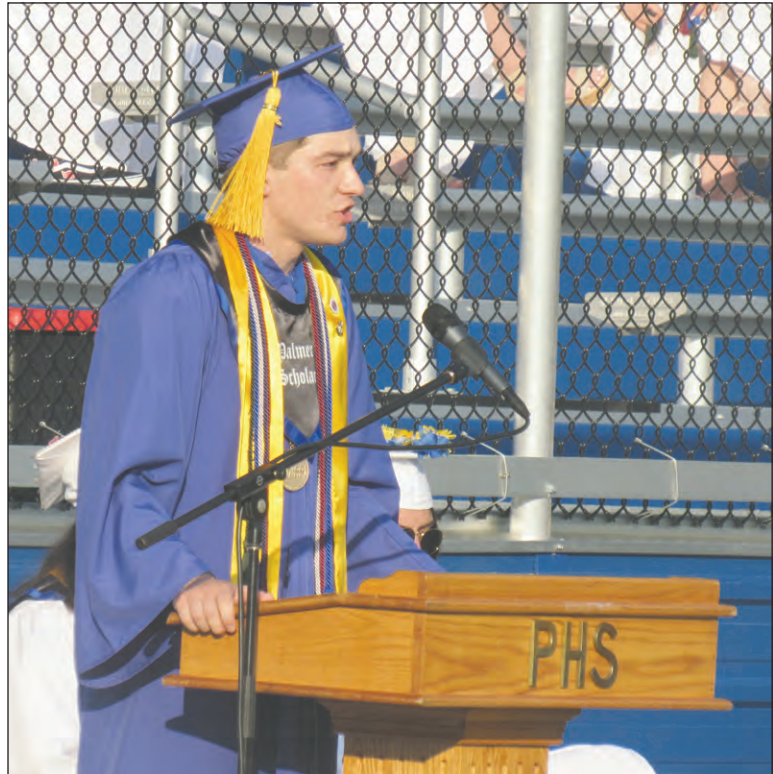
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CLASS OF 2021

PALMER HIGH SCHOOL



Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden

Valedictorian Jacob Mastalerz.

Leaving behind a legacy of striving and resilience

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER – After a long and intense school year, Palmer High School's Class of 2021 graduated on Sunday, June 6.

On Legion Field, seniors came together in front of their loved ones to receive their diplomas, close this chapter of their lives and start looking to the future. The COVID-19 pandemic may have turned life upside down since their junior year, but the resilient Class of 2021, celebrated by the community, started to regain some sense of normalcy in recent weeks. On Sunday, they ended high school on a high note.

School officials, notably Supt. Patricia Gardner, offered words of encouragement.

"You have to believe in miracles," Gardner said.

"Being here is a miracle. Living through a pandemic is a miracle. I expect great things out of

each and every one of you because you can do anything that you put your mind to."

The select students who delivered speeches were Class President Miyah Mega, Salutatorian and Class Historian Sasha Bernard, and Valedictorians Jacob Mastalerz and Karissa Wood.

Reflecting on a time when she thought she could not possibly rise to near the top of her class, Bernard said the first step to facing one's fears is planning how to overcome them.

"This can include evaluating the risks or creating an action plan because a majority of the time, fear simply comes from not knowing enough about what scares us," Bernard said.

"In the start of the COVID-19 pandemic everyone panicked, but as time went on, we slowly understood it more and solutions were formed. With the support from others, the unpleasant feeling associated with fear can be diminished, making facing them easier. We are fortunate to have grown up

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Students of Palmer High School's Class of 2021 make their way to the stadium.

MONSON HIGH SCHOOL



Turley Publications photos by Michael Harrison

Valedictorian Samantha Moyer.

Reflecting on the past, looking to the future

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

MONSON — If overcoming unforeseen obstacles is one of the common threads binding the Monson High School Class of 2021, they had one more thrown in their way when last Friday evening's graduation had to be pushed back a day when thunderstorms suddenly rolled into the region.

In his Saturday morning commencement address on the Granite Valley Middle School field, Principal William Metzger reminded the graduating seniors that the unpredictable nature of life is one thing they can count on and the one thing they can control is how they respond. Metzger invoked challenges from the past while drawing parallels to the turmoil

of the education community navigating the pandemic that began when Monson's newly minted graduates were in the last quarter of their junior year. He quoted a best-selling author and an Academy Award-winning actor to make points about how students, as they move on in the world, can best serve themselves and those around them while starring in their own personal "You Show."

Denying the humidity on the first day of this past week's heatwave and the gravity of his message, Metzger's words seemed to hang in the air both for students and their family and friends.

"It's been a long year and it finally seems as if brighter days lie ahead of us," Metzger said.

"In these unprecedented times, how do we move forward together in friendship and cooperation in the face of such uncer-

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Marshal and Junior Class Treasurer Sophia Villamaino leads the procession to the Granite Valley field. Leading are graduates Gabe Zippin and Hannah Zeiler.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden

Valedictorian of the Class of 2021, Makayla Davenport.

By Jonah Snowden
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PALMER – On a sunny Saturday afternoon, family and friends gathered on the front lawn of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School to celebrate the Class of 2021's graduation.

During commencement, Valedictorian Makayla Davenport, Salutatorian Jordan Gaj, and Class President Lauren Tracy all took to the podium to reflect on their time at Pathfinder. During her speech, Davenport said she wanted her classmates to appreciate what the regional high school provided.

"Not knowing the layout of the school and the majority of your classmates is probably one of the most nerve-racking situations for a young teen embarking on the

adventure of their first day of high school," Davenport said.

"However, one of the best things about attending a regional high school is knowing that everyone is feeling the same way because no one knows one another. Pathfinder encourages you to step out of your comfort zone on that first day of school which is one of the things that I love most about attending this school."

Gaj, who was next to speak, said she and her classmates should be proud of themselves, for preserving through the COVID-19 pandemic.

"During the past two years, I along with many others have grown stronger," Gaj said.

"Whether it has been taking up

PATHFINDER | page 8



Members of the Class of 2021 make their way to the front lawn, where family and supporters waited to greet them.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Election Day is next week for several local towns

REGION — Voters go to the polls to decide several contested offices in local towns. In Brimfield, the four candidates for the Board of Selectman in the June 21 Town Election will share their views on leading the town at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10 in the Great Hall in Town Hall. Residents will be able to view the program live on Brimfield Government Access TV Channel 192 or online at brimfield.tv by selecting

the Watch Live page.

The candidates running for two open seats on the five-member Select Board are Carolyn Haley and Martin Kelly, Pat Leaming, and Billie Jean Petrie Rubio.

The two, top vote-getters will serve three-year terms. The candidates will answer questions submitted by residents via email as well as those posed by moderator Bob Datz, Brimfield Public Access Coordinator. The public is welcome to attend, however space will be limited due to any restrictions still in place by the Board of Health. Questions may be submitted to

publicaccess@brimfieldma.org no later than noon June 10 for consideration. They should be designed to be answered by all candidates and similar questions received may be combined.

The forum is presented by Town Clerk Bob Sullivan and Brimfield Public Access TV. Polling hours for the 15 town offices on the ballot are noon to 8 p.m. on June 21.

Here is a list of other annual town elections coming up:

HOLLAND

Voting is June 8 to decide the

following offices*:

Select board
(three-year term):
Kyle Merolla
James Whalen

Board of Health
(three-year term):
David Kowalski
(seeking re-election)
Brock Jenkins

Planning Board
(five-year term)
Janice Brigham
Kyle Merolla

MONSON

The following candidates will appear on the ballot* for the Annual Town Election, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. June 8 at Memorial Hall, 198 Main Street:

In-person early voting ended June 3. Vote by mail ballots must be received by the close of polls on June 8.

For inquiries contact the Monson town clerk's office at: 413-267-4115 or email townclerk@monson-ma.gov.

The candidates are:

Select Board:
Jessica L. Allen
Karen Nothe-Valley
Patricia Oney

Board Of Assessors:
Allan Curtis
Christopher Haley

School Committee
(three-year term) vote for two:
Emily Graves-Harrison
Jeffrey Lord
Gennie Bailey
Alison Morgan

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**ELECTION** | from page 1

PALMER

The annual town election is scheduled to take place 10 a.m.-8 p.m. June 8.

The candidates are:

- Lorinda Baker, seeking re-election for a seat in the Palmer Town Council.
- Norman Czech, seeking re-election for the Palmer Planning board.
- Barber A. Barry, seeking re-election as the District 2 Councillor.
- Anthony Braden, seeking election for the Palmer School Committee.
- Karl Williams, seeking re-election as the District 3 councillor.

For more information on the town election, call the clerk's office at 413-283-2608.

* Several other candidates appear on the ballot unopposed for office, though write-in votes are allowed.

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

BONDSDVILLE – Bondsville Fire Chief John Daniels will resume his role for at least three more years after a 22-17 vote win over his challenger, Assistant Fire Chief Paul Sigovitch, at the annual Bondsville Fire and Water District's annual meeting on May 25.

Daniels said he was not overly confident about being reelected but hoped the work he has already done in the past four years as fire chief, along with the 40 years of experience he has overall with the fire department would resonate.

"I believe I have honorably served the residents of Bondsville," Daniels said.

"I'm not saying I excepted (to win), but it was nice that residents came out to help me win the election."

As the fire chief, Daniels plans to improve the fire department by hiring more firefighters. "We had a full roster at one point, but then some firefighters retired," Daniels said.

"Also, some firefighters' schedules changed, so they couldn't devote any time to the department."

Daniels also said he wants to continue working with the other fire departments in the area, specifically those in Three Rivers and Palmer.

"Anytime we have a structure fire or water rescue call, all three departments respond," Daniels said. "It's good to have training with the other departments, to know how they operate."

Training is another area Daniels said he feels the fire department could focus on more.

"You can never get enough training," Daniels said.

"My firefighters have also trained with other departments to display community-wide firefighting and protect the community a lot better."



Daniels said he owes his experience to each fire chief he has worked under, including the late John Sullivan.

"I have learned a lot from John," Daniels said.

"He was a great, very knowledgeable man and I the highest respect for him."

As the fire chief, Daniels puts a lot of trust in those around him.

"I am not going to take full credit for these tasks by no means," Daniels said.

"My officers have a huge part in helping me run the fire department. The type of chief I strive to be is one who listens to different opinions before I make a decision."

He also said he has the ultimate responsibility of ensuring the public safety of Bondsville, making sure firefighters have the best equipment.

Daniels will also be taking on the responsibility of first engineer, who is responsible for reporting to the Bondsville Board of Commissioners and meeting with them about the fire department's budget.

HOLLAND — Holland Helpers is a new group of volunteers dedicated to helping Holland's seniors who want to maintain their independence and stay in their own homes by assisting them with day-to-day needs.

Holland has always been a supportive community where neighbors are always willing to help each other and two Holland residents, Linda Racine, chairman of the Council on Aging, and Robin Cournoyer, were inspired by the book "Alone and Invisible No More" by Dr. Alan Teel. The idea of the Holland Helpers was born.

This concept was brought up to the Council on Aging as well as Brenda Palmer director of the Senior Center.

The supportive network connects volunteers with seniors in need to create a dynamic community of neighbors helping neighbors. They offer a variety of services to help seniors at any time, including recurring needs.

Here are just a few of the services the Holland Helpers can provide:

Transportation to and from appointments, shopping, visits with friends, or anywhere else you wish to go.

Assistance running errands to the store, pharmacy, cleaners, library, etc.

Visits, wellness checks, and companionship for coffee, lunch, or phone conversations.

Help around the house with cleaning, yard work, laundry, snow removal, and handyman services.

Tech support for phones, tablets, computers, and Kindle devices.

Teaching new hobbies or skills and learning new hobbies from you.

Anything else you may need - just ask!

The sole purpose of Holland Helpers is to connect seniors in need with volunteers. Anyone that is interested in volunteering to serve seniors in Holland are welcome.

If you are a senior and reside in Holland, email outreach@hollandma.org or call 413-245-3163 or 413-245-7108, ext.115

Want to know more?

The next meeting will be held at 1 p.m. June 22 at the Senior Center. Everyone interested in volunteering or signing up for the assistance is welcome.

The following schedule will provide dates the compost area off of Old Warren Road in Palmer will be opened to allow town residents to drop off grass clippings and leaves during spring and summer months. Place lawn debris in brown paper bags, (no plastic bags allowed) and do not leave bags up against the locked gate. The town asks that you also practice social distancing.

Dates & Times

Saturday, June 19, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, June 20, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, July 17, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, July 18, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 22, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Road fully re-opened to the public as of June 1. The hours of operation are:

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays: 3-8 p.m.

Thursdays: Noon-5 p.m.

Fridays: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Programming coming this summer, includes the Tails and Tales Children's Summer Reading Program. Students, the Holland Library has your summer reading titles for Tantasqua High School and Middle School available for check out.

Just ask at the desk.

Community Book Club: The book club will meet online via Zoom. Copies of the monthly book selection, in a variety of formats, are available for curbside checkout at the Holland Public Library.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73692143025?pwd=>

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For updates and more information,
call the library at 413-245-3163 and visit
the library on Facebook.

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The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



Courtesy photo

Proper Flag Disposal

PALMER — Often, when people replace their U.S. flags, they wonder if there's a proper way to dispose or "retire" their older, worn flags. There is and now it's easier to do. American flag drop-off boxes are now available to make properly retiring them easier. Drop off any American flag or flags to be retired at collection boxes located at the Country Bank on North Main Street or at J. Stolar Insurance on Calkins Road, both in Palmer. On June 14, Flag Day, at the Earl A. Howe American Legion Post 123 in Ware, the Scouts, sponsored by AMVETS Post 123, will be assisting the American Legion in retiring all of the flags collected. Anyone with questions can call 413-544-4358.

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

Rain barrels and compost bins available at a deep discount through town program through June 20

PALMER — It is that time of year again to start thinking about conserving water and reducing waste.

"Rain fall is hard to gauge and harvesting rain water with a rain barrel can mitigate the irregular patterns of rainfall," Sarah Fortune, conservation agent for the Town of Palmer, said.

To help homeowners and the town manage their water supplies and reduce the effects of stormwater pollution on local water ways, the Town of Palmer is offering the opportunity to purchase both rain barrels and compost bins at a discounted price. Capturing and storing water at the home and the use of raingardens are the two most effective ways to minimize storm water runoff. Additionally, composting is a great way to recycle our organic waste into a beneficial soil amendment for yards and gardens.

The Town of Palmer chose to work with the Great American Rain Barrel Co. and Earth Machine Co., to put on this joint program.

Last year, 30% of Massachusetts cities and towns partnered with The Great American Rain Barrel Co, selling over 3,000 barrels. Great American Rain Barrel Co has been approved vendors by the MASSDEP for the state since 2010.

Rain Barrels are being offered to residents for the deeply discounted price of \$69. The deadline for purchase is midnight, June 20.

It's easy to make compost, and the Town of Palmer makes it even easier by offering rodent-resistant Earth Machine home composting bins for \$43, over 50% off the retail price. The first 50 residents of Palmer to purchase bin will also receive a further discount for the low price of \$25. Deadline for purchase is noon, June 18.

Compost bins and rain barrels will both be available for pick up at the Pick Up Party 3-7 p.m. June 25 at the Swift River Greenbelt Park, located at 1 Street Cul de Sac, Bondsville MA 01008.

Why do it?

Composting at home can also help reduce methane production at landfills. Using the compost in our landscapes helps store carbon in the soil instead of releasing it to the atmosphere. And you can reduce your trash by 50 percent or more by composting leaves, grass clippings, garden debris, fruit peels, vegetable scraps, tea bags, coffee grounds, egg shells, paper towels, napkins and even paper bags.

The Earth Machine has a capacity of 11 cubic feet, the equivalent of about four bags of leaves. It has a sliding door at the bottom for removing compost and a locking lid. It is made from 50% post-consumer recycled plastic.

The compost bins help hold in heat and moisture, keep animals out, and look more attractive than open compost heaps. Organic material will start to turn to compost in the bins in three to six months. Compost, known as "black gold" to gardeners, replenishes nutrients in the soil, helps retain moisture, makes the soil easy to work, and helps plants resist disease.

Compost makes plants healthy so they can overcome adverse conditions without pesticides or chemical fertilizers.

Compost benefits all plants, and there are many different ways to use it. Add a handful of compost to each transplant hole when planting seedlings or potted plants. Spread another handful on the surface of the soil around the newly planted seedling, making sure that the compost is not touching the stem or trunk of the plant.

Spread compost as a mulch around perennials, shrubs and other existing plantings. If you are planting seeds, apply one-half to three inches of compost and mix it in with the top four inches of soil in the seedbed. To rejuvenate lawns, screen your compost using half-inch screening. Sprinkle the screened compost on the lawn about quarter-inch deep. Screened compost is also excellent for reseeding lawns. Sprinkle it a half-inch deep over the bare spots and distribute new grass seed on top. You can even make excellent potting soil with compost by mixing equal parts compost, sand and loam.

The case for rain barrels is also compelling. Each year homeowners face higher prices for water and sewer. The wholesale rate of water from the MWRA has increased 49% over the 10-year period from 2008-2018. Saving rain water helps homeowners hedge against the rising cost of water. Rain water is a free healthy alternative; it is organic, has no chlorine, no fluoride and no chemicals. It is an excellent water source for plants, gardens, lawns and any non-potable use. Regular use of a rain barrel can pay for itself in one season.

Droughts stress residential landscaping and town water facilities. In 2016, 168 communities in Massachusetts faced restrictions on nonessential outdoor water use — 47% of the cities and towns in the state. There is no restriction on rainwater use.

To find out more about the barrels, bins, and the program or make a discounted purchase, visit greatamericainrainbarrel.com and select Palmer-Belchertown.

HAIL TO THE HEROES



Turley Publications photo by Michael Harrison

HOLLAND — Ahead of Memorial Day and through Independence Day, the Holland Cemetery, which participates in the Wreath Across America program that honors U.S. service members who gave their lives in service, was adorned with banners that pay homage to the fallen. Many of the graves there contain the remains of military members and are marked with American flags.

Uvitron had the 'cure' for vital COVID-19 nasal swab production

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Manufacturer Uvitron International Inc., has aided in the production of 3D-printed, FDA-registered Nasopharyngeal NP Swabs for COVID-19 tests.

Director of Sales and Marketing Eugene Mikhaylichenko said about a year ago when the pandemic first began, there was a high demand for COVID tests. Another firm, Production 3D, reached out to Uvitron to assist with the overvaluing demand. Production 3D developed a plan to create the necessary testing supplies and partnered with Uvitron to solve its production problem, which was to quickly cure the resin used in swab development.

Uvitron's UV Conveyor 40 Plus with the SkyRay 800 fulfilled the curing process for the Nasopharyngeal NP Swabs, Mikhaylichenko said.

"In order to bring out the qualities of the product, it has to be properly exposed to complete its chemical reactions inside. The light interacts with the photoinitiators and basically finishes the cure."

Uvitron still works with Production 3D, though swabs are needed at this stage of the pandemic.

"We only produce a portion of the

workflow, which consists of printing the resin into the swabs and completing the whole process with curing it," Mikhaylichenko said.

"The demand has slowed down, since the (rollout of the) vaccine, but I think there's still demand for the testing."

Mikhaylichenko said his firm is glad they "were part of the solution for customers," whose success depended on their systems.

"We were able to scale the production from, only a few thousand to a hundred thousand," Mikhaylichenko said.

"It definitely brings satisfaction and is fulfilling seeing in this fight against the pandemic, we were able to be contributors."

Uvitron President Brian Lavoie offered similar sentiments.

"We were able to really boost the performance of curing and get it all going faster than what they had," Lavoie said.

"Our systems are really good. They're a little more expensive, but any cases where people need to do mass amounts of post-curing of 3D printed objects, that's where we really come in."

Uvitron is located at 150 Front St., Unit 4 in West Springfield. To learn more about the development and manufacturing company, visit uvitron.com.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at mharrison@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.



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Viewpoints

Reaching an educational milestone

High school graduates complete a 13-year journey from kindergarten in elementary school to 12th grade in high school. The journey ends with a graduation ceremony.

For the graduates, it is another educational milestone, but this year it was a little different. None of their senior was “normal.” Instead there were remote classes, some in-person classes and finally for the last few months of school, students and teachers in the classrooms full-time figuring out to socialize again and learn in the classroom together.

Many senior year activities proms, Winter Carnivals, other dances, field trips and so much more was up ended.

They should be congratulated for persevering, for trying hard even when things changed quickly, for remaining flexible and trying to go with the flow when possible.

Some graduates directly enter the workforce or military. Others opt to attend a post graduate certificate program, a two-year or four-year college. Many decided last year to postpone entering a program by working for a year or two to help defray the cost of an education, but this years it seems more students have decided to head right to college.

High school graduation is a big deal. Graduation ceremonies involve a lot of planning on the part of school administrators, staff and faculty. Family members look forward to attending loved ones graduations, and never was that more true than this year. What would be allowed? How many family members would get to attend? Where would they get to sit together or apart? For the seniors, the ceremony has special meaning since it is the last time their class is together and this year they can celebrate that they truly hung together and “got it done.”

The journey of life has many milestones. They pass by all too quickly. For parents, it seems like yesterday they heard their child’s cry as they were born, watched them take a first step, head off to school or saw them read a book all by themselves. Now, their child completes high school and heads into independence and adult life.

Whatever pathway people select after high school, it may not be the one they end up taking. It may be just a wrong turn. Anyone can turn around and take a different path.

So take time to congratulate the members of the Class of 2021 in your town or workplace. They put one foot in front of the other and kept moving toward their goals.

This week’s Journal Register features Palmer, Pathfinder, and Monson high school graduation coverage.

Congratulations to the members of the Class of 2021 as they pass another milestone in their life, which will be one to remember. They’ll have plenty of stories about it to share with their future family and friends.

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Late spring questions for the Garden Lady

This question came from Peggy, who gardens in Belchertown: “I always enjoy reading your column, and finally I got up the nerve to ask you a question. Last year, and for the first time ever, I grew elephant’s ears. Just as you said to do, I dug them up before the first frost. They looked so good, surprisingly, that I kept three of them in pots in a room on the north side of my house where they only received a bit of indirect sunlight each day. I watered them throughout the winter and they put out some new growth. When the danger of frost had passed, I brought them directly outside of the room they were in, figuring I would harden them off before planting them in the garden. Before long, however, the leaves yellowed, and turned brown in patches. Do you have a guess as to what happened?”

I am surmising your plants got scalded from the wind and/or the sun. The intensity of the light change from a nearly dark room to outdoors with the wind on top of that, likely shocked the plant. I recommend you cut back any foliage that is too far gone and move the pots to a very protected, shady area. With any hope, the plants will regrow and you will get some enjoyment out of them this summer. When frost threatens, unearth the tubers and store in them in a pot of vermiculite or wrap in paper and store in empty pots at fifty degrees. Pre-start them in a sunny window in late March and gradually acclimatize to the outdoors in mid-May. Good luck!

Cutworms

Cutworms are a big problem right now. I have seen many in my own garden. Here is an updated version of answers to a question that ran a few years back, figuring you may find it useful.

I ran into my old friend Don at the dentist office when this question arose: “I planted a lot of cabbage a few weeks back and in the morning I notice that



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

some of the plants are cut off, right at the base. What is doing this? I find it strange that they aren’t exactly eaten, just lying there!”

The pest you mention is the dreaded cutworm. There is nothing more disappointing to visit the garden and see the pepper or broccoli plant that you nurtured indoors for weeks or months chopped down at the soil line in a single night and left there to wither in the sun. According to Barbara Pleasant in “The Gardener’s Bug Book,” (Storey Publishing \$14.95) cutworms are most active at night. It is then that the moth them directly circle around the plant to grab a bite or two. Efficient as they are at eating, this snack is all they need for now, but left to their own devices they can ravage the garden of its tender seedlings in just a few evenings. Cutworm collars are the first line of defense. Simply encircle them with strips of heavy paper buried a couple of inches deep. Pint-sized ice cream containers with the bottom cut or the waxy containers that soy milk or orange juice come in work great too and are easily cut to the right size with a pair of scissors. If you already lost a few plants, dig around in the soil next to them and chances are you’ll find the soft, hairless caterpillar nearby. Be brave and squish it. Better yet feed it to your chickens, mine find them especially tasty. One wife’s tale was to put a long nail next to the seedlings. I tried it once, still had cutworms, then had to get all the nails out of my garden!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Stockbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

HISTORY MATTERS

History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children’s books that emphasize the importance of American history.

June 1 to June 15

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith
Guest columnists

On Jan. 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation put an end to slavery in the United States, but it took time for the news to advance. The state of Texas, for example, did not know anything about it until two years later, when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston on June 19, 1865, after the War, and announced the news to the enslaved people there.

According to History.com, “The day instantly became an important one to the African American citizens of Texas, who held annual celebrations and even made pilgrimages to Galveston each June-teenth.”

In no time, festivities proliferated throughout the nation; now, 47 states and the District of Columbia recognize Juneteenth as a holiday, but Texas was the first to decree annual observance of June 19th in 1979.

For more information about Juneteenth, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends books such as “The Fire Next Time,” by James Baldwin.

Lafayette Benjamin Franklin, the Continental Congress’s envoy to France, was not enthusiastic about having 19-year-old Marquis de Lafayette volunteer his military expertise to the colonial revolutionary forces two years into

the War. Nevertheless, Lafayette, whose full name was Marie-Joseph Paul Roch Yves Gilbert du Motier, made the difficult journey, and arrived in South Carolina on June 13, 1777. He hoped to be General George Washington’s second in command. Though his youth might have been an issue when he made his case to Congress, the Marquis’ offer of service was accepted by Washington, and he was commissioned as a Major-General.

Lafayette served with distinction in numerous battles, but in February 1778 when France and the American Revolutionary forces signed a formal treaty of alliance, it set off a declaration of war between France and Britain. By the time Lafayette returned to France, he had proven himself in battle, his loyalty to the American cause, and Benjamin Franklin admitted the Marquis had demonstrated his worth.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends is Sarah Vowell’s “Lafayette in the Somewhat United States.”

First Black West Point cadet

“Henry Flipper did all his country asked him to do.” President Bill Clinton said of Henry Ossian Flipper, the first African American graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Life was not easy for him. He was born into slavery in Thomasville, Georgia, in 1856; after he completed his studies on June 14, 1877, he wrote his autobiography, which revealed the cruel treatment he had received at West Point.

According to History.com, Flipper recalled how “he was socially ostracized by white peers and professors.”

After commencement, Flipper served as a second lieutenant in the African American 10thCavalry Regiment, known as the Buffalo Soldiers of Fort Sill, Oklahoma; there, he distinguished himself with his engineering prowess; as a matter of fact, a drainage system designed by him is listed as a National Historic Landmark. It’s known as “Flipper’s Ditch.”

His career was halted when he was brought up on charges of stealing government money, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. A court martial acknowledged his innocence of the embezzlement charge, but found him guilty of the conduct accusations for which he was dishonorably discharged. Although Flipper had a “distinguished career” as a civilian engineer, he never reconciled the humiliating event.

The Army overturned his “dishonorable” status in 1976, 36 years after his death, and in 1999, President Clinton granted Flipper a full posthumous pardon.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Henry Ossian Flipper’s West Point autobiography, “The Colored Cadet at West Point” and Jane Eppinga’s “Henry Ossian Flipper: West Point’s First Black Graduate.”

Comments on Congress

Can the U.S. sustain the international order?

By Lee H. Hamilton
Guest columnist

We don’t often think that how the U.S. conducts itself at home has much impact on how we face the world, but it does. You’d be amazed at how closely people in countries all over the globe follow events here and count on the United States to lead the way. When it’s messy at home, it’s hard to sustain the strength and readiness to turn our attention outward. Doing so is especially important right now because what we’ve come to term “the international order” is under stress. It’s not collapsing by any means, but U.S. leadership faces challenges and if we’re divided and unsettled at home, it will be much more difficult to respond appropriately.

What is the international order? It’s essentially the set of structures and values that evolved during the 20th century to resolve disputes, promote commerce and free trade, undergird economic development and investment, further contacts and exchanges between nations and their citizens, and protect human rights. It’s based on mutually-negotiated rules and initiatives that, in a well-functioning world, are promoted by institutions such as the UN, the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, the World Trade Organization, the World Health Organization, and others.

These days, though, it’s fair to say that there’s no aspect of the order we once took for granted that isn’t at least facing questions. This is in part because, at the moment, both China and Russia are asserting their interests and, often, working actively to undermine ours. At the same time, the U.S. role is less prominent than it once was. Our allies, especially after the four years of the Trump administration, are uncertain of our commitment to global leadership given that we questioned longtime alliances, withdrew from institutions, pulled out of international accords, and in general pulled back from the web of alliances and agreements that we had helped shape in earlier years. Understandably, our friends and allies wonder how much they can count on us and our adversaries are eager to test us.

At the same time, forces beyond the control of any government are reshaping the global picture. Nationalism is stronger, conflicts between countries seem to be ratcheting up, and many societies are struggling with growing diversity, declining tolerance, and a turn toward authoritarianism. On the whole, international power is less concentrated and more widely distributed, which presents challenges to global institutions and makes it more difficult to pursue much-needed reforms within them.

In this situation, it’s crucial that democracies such as the U.S., Europe, Japan, and Canada recognize the importance of the role they play in sustaining and revitalizing the international order. It’s by no means a given that it can endure, but the democracies have an advantage: for many people around the world, the more authoritarian alternatives are not especially appealing.

Even so, the work of strengthening the world order will require a concerted effort that blends both cooperation and firmness. We have to strengthen our alliances of course, as well as shore up and broaden arms control efforts. Countering authoritarianism in all its facets will be an ongoing challenge. And we need constantly to gauge how best to be a benign world power, helping to resolve conflicts and slow to use force—not ruling it out, but relying on it wisely and only when necessary.

Finally, as I suggested at the beginning, our strength on all these fronts will come from making sure that we are strong at home: that our economy is robust, our finances and debt are manageable, our elections are fair and well run, our infrastructure is revitalized, we invest in the future of our businesses through research and development, and we invest in the future of the American people by focusing attention on education and skills development. If we can do all that, then we will have earned the right to lead the world in navigating the challenges facing the international order.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year’s election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday’s newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Michael Harrison at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor’s Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: **The Journal Register Letter to the Editor**
24 Water St.,
Palmer MA 01069,
or by e-mail to: mharrison@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

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Poets answer the call to Monson Art Council's 'Colors of Change'

MONSON — Poets gathered for a recent workshop led by Cindy Snow called "Ekphrastic Poetry: Hear It! See It! Write It!" in conjunction with the 27th Annual Spring Art Exhibition and Sale of the Monson Arts Council.

The event, funded by the Monson Cultural Council with funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, took place May 19 at the House of Art in Monson. Participants in the workshop heard examples of ekphrastic poetry — words that creatively bring art to life. Then, using pieces in the Monson Art Council's exhibit "The Colors of Change" as inspiration, poets composed pieces in response and shared their writing with one another in a comfortable setting. Here is a paring of poems composed in the workshop accompanied by the art that inspired them:



Artist: Karl Knapp
Tangerines by Karl Knapp won Best of Show and the President's Award.

Tangerine Chat

By Sue Gregory

I'm luscious and juicy on brilliant blue
Hey, I'm already half gone!
Hasn't anyone returned for you yet? You must be bitter.
My skin practically melted away
and, of course, will make spectacular compost
Do you see the juice dripping from her lips?
You are all just table dressing
Looking so artful with your leaf.
She is reaching out...Ohhhhhhh...Bliss
Then, oblivion.

Artist: Karl Knapp
Title of Art: Tangerines
The poet Sue Gregory can be reached at castgregory@charter.net

WOW!

By Sarah Brown

Orange jumping off canvas
You really did it?
How? Do I really need to know?
I would stare blankly
as you etched out
each brushstroke.
I'm not a painter.
I was certain it was a photo

But even a photo would not capture
these tangerines in still life
the way you did--
the rust
the grains of wood
not just leaves but every edge,
every dent.
I can almost see their cells
framing this elegant produce,
the fruit that is God's artwork
the rough rind
its protection from nakedness.

The eyes you must have.
The talent to reproduce every
minuscule detail
Your vision and talent
the first art I saw today,
the first to inspire my writing.

I'm allergic to tangerines
You made me want to use
my Epinephren pen.
That is supposed to be
a compliment.

The poet Sarah Brown can be reached at sarahelizabethbrown1982@comcast.net



Poem by Sue James, artist David Spencer "Layover."

Waiting

By Sue James

I come back to meet you over and over.
So self-contained
Your tranquility a magnet
As we wait together. My
heart slows to match yours
and the buzz of the day

falls away.
Nowhere else to be.
May we become old friends.

Art: Layover
Artist: Shauna Shane
The poet Susan James can be reached at fjames9059@charter.net



The Hiding, the Hidden

By Gay Paluch

I'd like to hide
behind your screen
let the magic of iris
brush my body
let me emerge
on toes of pink satin
in gown of gauzy pink
twirling, leaping
Into drapes of leaf
blue of sky.

But, I stop
can only think
of what might be hidden
behind your scene of spring
of the screens we create
the places between us
what we will
never see
never know

masked by purple irises.

Artist: Peg Considine
Art: Purple Irises

Some Thoughts for Oscar

By Gay Paluch

Yes, you are "Best of Show"
a real winner by some standards,
ready to leap onto your admirers.
But, I ask, How dare you stick out
your tongue at me?
Rude, rude, and more rude.
Mother said so
when I was six,
the time my tongue escaped
in self-defense, in disobedience.
She sent me to my room.
That's maybe where you should go.

Are you hot, need to pant
your tongue lolling
to catch the breeze?
Sorry, but that pink flesh
is total ugliness
all that slobbering
slime, smelly slurps.
Not even your camouflage
in white lilies can disguise
your odor. You reek.

Yes, I am leaving you, walking
the other way—
out of your "fragrance."
Don't try to stop me.
I really do not care
what you think of me
of my Chanel #5.

Art: Oscar
Artist: Peter Root
The poet Gay Paluch can be reached at gay.paluch@comcast.net

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content. For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Journal Register, please email mharrison@turley.com.

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An Artist's View of Two Goats

By Maureen Solomon

I need to paint these goats
I love how they pay attention to each other
I know you don't see it in the darkness of the old barn
but they have such a special life together
teasing and butting, they are so full of it.
I will paint them without the barn
I will gloss over the straw
You will see how the light of day, the blue of sky
tells the story of their goat life.
You must see how they see it
all in a tumble of sunlight
A basket of sky that cradles
them surrounds them with the magic
of being alive and together in just this day.
How their eyes hold this life
And the ears, how they listen.

Art: Mable & Mina
Artist: Mary Noonan

Gobi advocates for preservation initiatives in budget debate; Secures amendment to recover \$1M in MassWildlife funds

BOSTON — Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) advocated successfully for a collection of amendments during the state's fiscal 2022 budget last week aimed at preserving both manmade and natural habitats in central Massachusetts. Among the 22 amendments submitted by the senator were those addressing preservation of the prison camp structures and maintaining the historic Wood House in the town of Rutland, and addressing agricultural maintenance in the town of Spencer.



"It is important to preserve historic structures that are a benefit to the entire state, telling the tale of our past while remaining open for enjoyment to those in the future," Gobi said. "I am thankful that these local projects have been approved, and I will continue to advocate for items that maintain our local landmarks for consecutive generations."

The first amendment submitted by the Senator would allocate \$50,000 for the preservation, protection, signage and maintenance of the prison camp structures located in the town of Rutland. Built in 1903 on 914 acres of land the camp held prisoners serving sentences for drunkenness and other minor offenses, and included a working farm, until 1934 when it was abandoned due to its location atop a drainage area of water supply for the region. The area is a popular location for hiking, biking, hunting and other outdoor activities and the structures themselves remain popular features at the location.

A second amendment submitted by the Senator would allot \$25,000 for repairs to the roof of the Wood House. The Wood House was built in 1915 and has been the home of the Rutland Historical Society for 28 years, which shared the space until 2002 with the Rutland Police Department.

In addition to these, Gobi testified favorably for the addition of two items geared towards cleaning up natural space in the town of Spencer. If included in the conference committee version of the budget, \$150,000 would be allocated for the purchase of a new highway department truck for the town, and \$50,000 would go to the Spencer Agricultural Association for the construction of a new building on its grounds to house animals.

MassWildlife

Gobi, co-chair of the Sportsmen's Caucus and past Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, also successfully advocated or the inclusion of an amendment to the FY22 state budget aimed at addressing lost revenue that the state is failing to reimburse to the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife. The bipartisan amendment targets the nearly \$1 million/year the agency forfeits each year by providing free hunting and fishing licenses to residents aged over 70 that is not currently being reimbursed by the state and would ensure that these funds are appropriated annually from the General Fund.

"(The) Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife provides free fishing and hunting licenses to residents over 70 years of age, but is not reimbursed for this loss in revenue," Gobi said.

"As a result, the agency is losing approximately \$1 million per year, and that loss is expected to increase as the 70+ population continues to grow. At the same time, MassWildlife is reimbursed each year by the state to offset losses associated with discounted fishing and hunting licenses offered to people ages 65-69. This amendment would fix this inconsistency while simultaneously raising desperately-needed dedicated funds for this important agency, tasked with overseeing sportsmen and women's activities while conserving and restoring critical habitat."

For more information on these amendments or the budget process, email Gobi's office at Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov.

Sweet '71 Ludlow High 50th class reunion

The Ludlow High School Class of 1971 will be celebrating its 50th class reunion this fall and is welcoming Ludlow High alumni of that year to attend. Classmates can attend one, two, or all three days of this weekend celebration, all happening in Ludlow:

Friday, Sept. 10, 2021 – Drinks and Snacks at the Iron Duke
Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 – Dinner at the Villa Rose (with DJ Max Salvador)
Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021 – Cookout at the Ludlow Fish and Game Club

The reunion committee has mailed 263 save the date cards. Classmates who did not receive a card can send a current mailing address and email address to sweet71hs@gmail.com

The class also posts information on a closed Facebook group: Classmates – Sweet '71.

You must already be a Facebook member to join. Send a request to join the group page to Claire Vershon Wales also at sweet71hs@gmail.com.



Courtesy photo

Wachusett Food Pantry Board Member Nancy Pierce picks up pet food at Second Chance so area pets don't go hungry.

Second Chance works to make sure no pet goes hungry

EAST BROOKFIELD – As the pandemic took hold, displacing workers, many pet owners suddenly had to figure out how they were going to feed themselves and feed their pets. More people than ever were turning to local food pantries for help, many for the first time. Second Chance Animal Services Pet Food Pantry Program was there to make sure no pet went hungry.

Second Chance founded the pet food pantry many years ago, distributing pet food to area food pantries to help keep pets out of shelters and with the people they love.

Wachusett Food Pantry has been working with Second Chance for several years. Wachusett Food Pantry Board Member Nancy Pierce underscores the importance of providing pet food. "We had heard from our recipients in the past that they would rather feed their pets first before themselves," she said. "Donations as a whole had been low during 2019/2020 with the pandemic, and we were seeing an increase in our distribution activity monthly. Pet food donations are not something often thought about as folks think about donating to a food pantry, so the need is always there."

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato has seen pet food distributions to local food pantries increase significantly over the past year. "We are now working with more pantries and providing additional pet food to each pantry," she said.

Blancato is grateful to supporters for donations of food and other supplies to keep the program running during this critical time. "Our greatest need was and still is plastic bags to prepare pet food for distribution," she said. "Donations of large bags of pet food are repackaged by volunteers into smaller bags for distribution so they can help all the pet owners who need help feeding their pets."

As the pandemic challenged local pantries to serve more people, they also faced the challenge of who was going to do the work as health concerns sidelined some volunteers. A group of Second Chance volunteers stepped up to deliver pet food to the organizations who were unable to pick up food from the distribution site.

Pierce says Wachusett Food Pantry is grateful for the program. "We know our recipients and their furry loved ones appreciate all the bags and cans of food, and yes, treats, which we are able to provide to them," Pierce said.

Despite the brighter days ahead, many pets and pet owners still face food insecurity. Anyone wanting to help, may drop off donations or send them to the Second Chance Adoption Center, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515. Monetary donations are also needed to run the program. Second Chance encourages local food pantries to email info@secondchanceanimals.org for more information on participating in the program. Businesses interested in helping can email development@secondchanceanimals.org for more information.

NOTICE

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Schools

Sun, Fun & Yum

Palmer seniors enjoy a final week BBQ



Seniors posed together after the water balloon fight, wet but with smiles.

PALMER — The Palmer High Class of 2021 was honored with a picnic on June 2 just ahead of last Sunday’s commencement.

The event was hosted on campus by the Palmer High School National Honor Society junior class members. The event funded by the NHS, a grant from the Palmer Police Association, Country Bank and donations from families. NHS Advisor Amy Herring pulled together the event for the senior class to help make up for what the students missed out on during the past year-and-a-half.

The senior class, as well as some teachers and NHS underclassmen, were treated to the Roosters Cantina food truck for lunch and an ice cream truck for sweet treats afterward. The fun seniors enjoyed as a class before graduation included a water balloon battle, volleyball, spike ball, can jam, corn hole and music.



Brandyn Costa throws a balloon at Madison Cole as she tries to run away.



Enjoying the lunch were (from left): Emma Rock, Jiying Xu, Sasha Bernard, and Amelia Bachand.



Seniors get ready for the water balloon fight. Shown here (from left) are: Chelsea Bigos, Mason Brown, Olivia Coughlin, Madison Cole, Jayden Blackburn, Jacob Mastalerz, Marissa Dinelle, Emma Shorette, Kendall LeVasseur, (front row) Jocelyn Benard, Olivia Sloat, and Avery Labonte.

The seniors were given a barrel of water balloons and not one was left at the end of the battle.



Enjoying sweet treats were Martha Howell, Shakira Stanley and Lilly Fontaine.

Turley Publications photos by Deanna Sloat

STCC student gets degree at age 60

SPRINGFIELD — Heide Blackak had a dream of getting a degree when she decided to enroll at Springfield Technical Community College as a full-time student in her late 50s.

Two years later, at the age of 60, she’s not only getting a degree — she is receiving recognition as one of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s “29 Who Shine.” The award recognizes 29 outstanding student graduates from

the Commonwealth’s public higher education system.

“I was really overwhelmed to be in that group of young people,” said Agawam resident Blackak, who is one of the oldest recipients in the award’s 10-year history.

Each year, the state honors outstanding students who show promise as future leaders and demonstrate a strong record of academic achievement. The 29 was honored in an online ceremony on May 13.

Blackak will earn her degree in liberal arts/general studies with a 4.0 grade point average.

Blackak first took college classes decades ago not long after graduating from high school in Pennsylvania. She received a scholarship to study languages. However, she never finished. She got married and raised two children who are now in their 30s.

“In the back of my mind I always thought I would love to finish

school,” Blackak said.

When she decided it was time to go back, she chose STCC because it was affordable and close to home. Washington Monthly rated STCC as Best 2-Year College for Adult Learners. The faculty and staff welcomed her and made the process of enrolling easy. “No one once made me feel uncomfortable by being older. I made many new friends, who I keep in touch with on social media,” she said.



Photo submitted by STCC
Heide Blackak recently earned a degree from Springfield Technical Community College at the age of 60.

She said her grown sons supported her decision to enroll at STCC, ranked fourth best community college in the United States by Academic Influence. When she got an A in class, she would text a photo of the grade to them.

“They were like, ‘Mom, you’re so smart!’ Blackak said, chuckling. She often punctuates her responses with an infectious laugh.

“My grandchildren are more excited than anyone. They would say, ‘Oh my gosh, you have a 4.0,’ or, ‘You won this award!’ It’s exciting to them, and they would look up and say, ‘If she can do it, then I can do it.’”

Her partner, Paul, provided support and help with homework on Saturday night.

Blackak pursued her degree while working two full-time jobs. She also was caring for her mother, who was receiving cancer treatment. She would read textbooks during lunch breaks and also worked on assignments late at night. On top of her studies and work, she serves as an STCC Student Ambassador and volunteers her time for a number of organizations, including hospice care and the American Red Cross.

She listed her math classes as the highlight of her STCC experience, which might come as a surprise to her friends who knew about her math phobia.

“When I went to school, I failed math and had to go to summer school. I didn’t understand the concept of math. I am not a logical thinker, I asked too many questions,” she said.

But the math instructors at STCC supported her and went the extra mile to ensure she would succeed. She said Professor Zahi Haddad “was a phenomenal teacher.”

“If we asked the same question 20 different ways, he took the time to go over it again,” she said.

She took advantage of the resources at STCC, including the supplemental instruction program which consists of student peers enrolled at the college who help in and out of the classroom. She used the free tutoring program at STCC and hired a private tutor.

“I went early, stayed late, did extra credit and never missed a class. I got an A. My very first A in math since I was in sixth grade,” she said.

She thanked algebra instructor, James McDonald, and math professor, Ann-Marie Simao, both of whom helped her accomplish her dream.

“I learned to really love math,” Blackak said. “I thought I was ‘dumb’ in math my whole life. It really prevented me from doing more. You can’t do surgery, build a spaceship or build a bridge if you can’t do math. So I never thought I could do this. After going to STCC, I realized I was really smart in math and I could do anything.”

STCC Academic Counselor Elisabeth Cantor, who taught Blackak in an Introduction to Sociology course, nominated her for the 29 Who Shine award.

Cantor said she was thrilled to learn that Blackak was chosen for the 29 Who Shine award.

“She’s a lovely lady, and it couldn’t have happened to a nicer person,” Cantor said. “And she does shine.”

Interested in applying to STCC? Visit stcc.edu/apply or call Admissions at 413-755-3333.

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Schools

Palmer High School National Honor Society inducts new members

PALMER — On May 27, 14 new members were inducted into the Palmer High School National Honor Society.

NHS Advisor Amy Herring welcomed the students as well as parents and family members to the ceremony, held later than normal this year due to COVID, under the tent that was setup at Old Mill Pond School.

The celebration under the tent was a first for the NHS Palmer chapter, as well as a remote induction of new member Gabriel Messier, who was out of town but didn't want to miss it.

Olivia Sloat, president of the Palmer National Honor Society, led the members during the ceremony, highlighting the principles of the National Honor Society. Candles representing Character, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service were lit by current members during the ceremony.

The induction of the new members and pin presentation was done by Principal Susan North, as well as distribution of the medals to be worn by the senior members of NHS whom are graduating.

The keynote speaker was Amy Herring's daughter Rebekah Herring, a graduate of Palmer High School and past member of the Palmer National Honor Society. She spoke of how she wasn't exactly sure she knew what she wanted to do after graduating from Palmer, but like her mother is now a teacher. Rebekah Herring told students to remember a powerful word that her mom always emphasized —yet.

Yet can mean so much, she said, talking about how she wasn't always successful, yet she pushed on and accomplished her goals.

The National Honor Society was founded in 1921 in Pittsburg, Pa., and has grown into a staple of academic and community distinction for high school students. The pillars of NHS include community service and philanthropy. There are chapters in 50 U.S. states and across the world.

For more, go to nhs.us.



Senior member Olivia Coughlin lights fellow member Marissa Dinelle's candle during the lighting ceremony.



Olivia Sloat, president of the Palmer National Honor Society Chapter lights the candle for Character.



Jocelyn Benard, chapter secretary lights the candle for Service.



Keynote Speaker, Rebekah Herring speaks to the audience of her journey, and how the students need to remember this chapter is closing, yet there is still more to come.



Turley Publications photos by Deanna Sloat

The 2020-2021 National Honor Society Members pose for a group photograph after the ceremony. Senior members are Amelia Bachand, Jocelyn Benard, Sasha Bernard, Chelsea Bigos, Mason Brown, Madison Cole, Olivia Coughlin, Marissa Dinelle, Tori Edwards, Ali Heydare, Kendall Levasseur, Jacob Mastalerz, Hanna Mega, Miyah Mega, Ashley Rivest, Emma Rock, Emma Shorette, Nicholas Silva and Olivia Sloat. Inductees were Ava Denault, Sara Dresser, Kevin Huynh, Chance Lee, Jack Letendre, Andrew Martin, Noel Melnick, Gabriel Messier, Amelia Murray, Derrick Smola, Madalyn Theriault, Anthony Ukrainets, William White, and Allannah Wood.



Senior Chelsea Bigos receives her National Honor Society medal to be worn at graduation.

PALMER HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT



Palmer High School Principal Susan North.



Class Historian and Salutatorian Sasha Bernard.



Valedictorian Karissa Wood.

PALMER | from page 1

in a small town with so many familiar faces to guide us and to lean on: our teachers to whom we are close enough to rant when we have a bad day, friends that we can call up crying at midnight, and families that are willing to accept us as we are."

During his speech, Mastalerz referenced his favorite childhood book, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle, which illustrated the value of change.

"To the class of 2021, we have undergone this ritual of change," Mastalerz said.

"Many of us began as caterpillars, navigating the halls of Old Mill Pond. We learned to read and write and received the building blocks of our future. We then transitioned to the cocoon phase of Converse Middle School. We started to find our way, developing our interests as well as continuing to grow and learn. Finally, during our time at Palmer High School, we evolved into beautiful butterflies. Our wings had unique patterns and colors, identifying us through our interests and actions."

Wood's advice to the Class of 2021 was to strive to be satisfied with their lives and not worry about what others think.

"Satisfaction brings rewards beyond tangible plastic trophies," Wood said.

"Satisfaction is more than any medal, any certificate, or any diploma. Satisfaction is a success on an individual level. It is a way of eliminating the insecurity of comparisons. Our personal best is far more important than beating someone else's. It is crucial that if anything in my time at Palmer High resonates with any of you tonight, it's that the accomplishments we have will always outweigh everything we failed to do."



During the graduation ceremony, Palmer High School Senior Advisor Paula Chapin was honored by students of the Class of 2021.



The Class of 2021 performs their class song, "Good Old Days" by Macklemore and Kesha.



The Palmer High School Band performs at Sunday's commencement.

PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



Class President Lauren Tracy.



Salutatorian Jordan Gaj.



Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School Principal Eric Duda.



Pathfinder Superintendent Gerald L. Paist.



Members of the Pathfinder Class of 2021 get ready to receive their diplomas.



Family and friends of the Pathfinder Class of '21 wait for the seniors to arrive for commencement.

Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden

PATHFINDER from page 1

a new hobby or honing your current skills, we have all put time into bettering ourselves. And that is what high school is all about. Even if our years at Pathfinder were not like your older brother's or sister's high school stories, ours is certainly one to remember."

Tracy said the Class of 2021 should acknowledge the significance of being selected to attend Pathfinder.

"Though the past 14 months or so may have felt like an eternity to

some of us, I'm sure we all can recall our first day of school here at Pathfinder," Tracy said.

"What we need to remember most, however, is that we chose to come to Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School and remember that we were chosen to

come here as well. From that first honor of becoming part of Pathfinder's Class of 2021 and that first day, which was roughly 1,460 days ago, we have each been working towards this day. Our graduation."

This graduation also honored Pathfinder's Superintendent Dr. Gerald L. Paist, who is retiring after coming to the school in 1973. He thanked the students and their parents for choosing the vocational high school.

After receiving their diplomas, students took a celebratory photograph with Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School Principal Eric Duda and later moved their tassels from right to left, officially changing their status from seniors to alumni.

Baystate Mary Lane Satellite Emergency Facility Update

The Baystate Mary Lane Satellite Emergency Facility is closed. All future emergency department services in the Baystate Health Eastern Region will be provided at **Baystate Wing Hospital**, located at 40 Wright Street in Palmer.

We value and appreciate your ongoing trust in Baystate Health.

For more information on the closure of the satellite emergency facility and alternative options for emergency care, please visit **BaystateHealth.org/EasternRegion**

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BASEBALL

Home treats Mustangs baseball much better

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

MONSON – Home sweet home.

The Monson varsity baseball team played six road games and two home games during the first month of the regular season. They're scheduled to play five of their six final games at Ronald Constantino Baseball Field.

Following a three-game road trip, the Mustangs returned home and coasted to an 8-0 home shutout

victory over St. Mary's of Westfield in a Bi-County League game, last Tuesday afternoon (June 1). The Mustangs also defeated the Saints, 8-1, in the first meeting of the season, which was one of the six road games.

The Mustangs first two home victories were against Hampshire Regional and Sabis.

"We've played very well in our three home games so far this season," said Monson first-year head coach Curtis Orlik. "We do get to take batting practice before

our home games and our pregame warm-ups aren't as rushed as they are on the road."

The home win against St. Mary's improved the Mustangs overall record to 7-2. Their two losses came on the road to Granby in extra innings and Ware.

"I'm pleased with the way we've been playing this season," Orlik said. "We came very close to beating the best team in our league."

Constantino, who was a pitcher for the Monson High School baseball team, was selected by

the Cleveland Indians in the third round of the 1965 MLB draft. He would've been very proud of the outstanding pitching performance by senior left-hander Daniel Fiester against St. Mary's.

Fiester, who went the distance, hurled the Mustangs first shutout of the season. He allowed just two singles and struck out eight batters. He issued three walks and threw 97 pitches.

"Danny kept throwing strikes, which makes my job a lot easier," said Monson senior catcher Luke

Hedspeth. "I've been his catcher since the seventh grade, and we've built a very good chemistry over the years."

Fiester has enjoyed throwing to Hedspeth during his varsity baseball career.

"Luke is a stud," Fiester said. "I probably wouldn't be able to pitch as well as I've had without him back there."

Fiester, who improved his season record to 3-1, has allowed a total of 12 base hits and had 23 strikeouts in 20 2/3 inning. His first

home start was against Hampshire Regional in the season opener. He also recorded a win as a relief pitcher at Hampshire.

"This is one of the best high school baseball fields in Western Mass.," Fiester said. "It was also nice not having to travel to play a game for a change. We've been arriving at our road games a little bit later this year and have less time to warm up."

Fiester also helped himself

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SOCCER



Carlos Emery attempts to balance the ball after receiving a pass.



Ignacio Lerech tries to get a pass by his opponent.

Pioneers continue win streak with shutout

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—It has been three years since an opposing USL League Two soccer team walked into Lusitano Stadium and defeated the Western Mass. Pioneers.

FC Malaga City made their first ever visit to the 103-year-old only soccer specific stadium in New England last Friday night, and it was a long trip back to Lagrangeville, New York for them.

The Pioneers, who scored three first half goals and added another one with the help of a Malaga City player, coasted to a 4-0 victory before a large crowd on a beautiful late spring evening.

"We scored a few early goals in tonight's game, which really helped us," said Pioneer's head coach Federico Molinari. "We always seem to play with a lot more confidence at home."

The Pioneers (4-1-1) played four of their five regular season matches on the road. The players were excited to be playing in front of their faithful supporters again.

"This is by far the best stadium and the best fans in our league," said starting forward Ignacio Lerech, who scored a goal and added an assist in the Pioneers first home win of the season. "I've played for two other USL-Two teams, but this team is like one big family. I'm very happy to be playing here this year."

Lerech, who's from Tucuman, Argentina, has scored a team-leading three goals this season.

When the Pioneers and Malaga City (1-4-1) faced each other for the first time on May 15, Lerech came off the bench and scored a late goal giving the Pioneers a 1-0 road win.

"That was my first game playing for this team and when I scored that goal late in the game, it was just an amazing feeling," said Lerech, who also

PIONEERS | page 10

LACROSSE

Monson girls struggle against B-Town



Goalie Madeline Sweeney fires a throw up the field.



Isabella Allard tries to fight through the Monson defense.

MONSON – Monson High School girls lacrosse has a much younger team this year. That, along with a year off has been a struggle for the Mustangs, which recently suffered an 18-1 loss to Belcher-town. Monson has just a couple of games remaining in its regular season.



Alexis Barnes heads up the field with the ball.



Lillian Laskowski looks out for an open teammate.



Abby Cuipenski is all alone as she crosses midfield.

Photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com

LACROSSE



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Eathan Farrar tries to go around a defender.

Pioneers take down Granby again

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

GRANBY—The Granby boys lacrosse team entered the second meeting of the regular season with Suburban League rival Pathfinder looking to get into the win column for the first time.

The Pioneers, who squeaked out a 4-3 win in the first meeting, scored five first quarter goals en route to an 8-2 road victory over the Rams in a hard-fought physical battle, last Thursday afternoon.

"We go into every game thinking that we're going to win, but this is a very tough loss for us," said Granby senior goalie Nick Parker. "We did fall behind early in the game, but I thought we played much better during the second half."

Parker will be playing college football at Rochester University next fall.

The other seniors listed on the Granby roster are Steven Torres Jr., Gabe Arabik, and Michael Flaherty.

The Rams (0-10) will have one final chance to

PATHFINDER | page 10



Nick Beaulieu sprints away from the Granby defense.



Ryan Caron looks around to make a pass.

Perry, Bryne gets wins at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Nutmeg State teen Jacob Perry copped the biggest prize Saturday, June 5, at Monadnock Speedway, winning the 100-lap Modified Racing Series main event while, on the same card, three other drivers earned their first victory lap of the summer.

NHSTRA Modified strongman Ben Byrne won his 40-lap feature, Justin Littlewood stormed to victory in the Late Model Sportsman, and Jake Bosse, who started the season as a Young Gun, earned his career-first Pure Stock win.

Mini Stock ace Gordon Farnum soared into the points lead with his second 2021 feature win, while Street Stocker Tommy O'Sullivan and Young Gun Fast Eddie Petruskevicious also won for the second time.

Hometracker hot shoe Kirk Alexander – he of 31 MRS feature victories – started on row one in the night's main event, taking the lead



Submitted photo

Ben Bryne was a winner in the 40-lap event at Monadnock last weekend.

from polesitter Ryan Doucette on lap four and then setting his sights on duplicating his victory of 18 years ago when the Series debuted here on the high banks.

Russ Hersey would reel Alexander in and for a while it seemed like old home day in the Milton Cat 100. The kid from Connecti-

cut, though, Jacob Perry, had other ideas, taking charge just past mid-race and then leading open-wheel stalwarts Tommy Barrett and Ronnie Williams under the checkers. Hometracker Matt Kimball came home fourth, and Alexander round-

RACING | page 10

Falmouth Road Race to resume, event set for Aug. 15

FALMOUTH – Falmouth Road Race, Inc., organizers of the 49th Annual ASICS Falmouth Road Race, one of America’s premier running events of the summer season, today announced that it will host a field of 8,000 in-person runners for its upcoming event on Sunday, Aug. 15.

Those who registered during the initial registration window and selected, “If given the chance, I would like to run in Falmouth” will be guaranteed a place within the limited in-person field. Runners who have not yet registered but are looking to secure a guaranteed in-person spot in this year’s event can do so by registering to run on behalf of a charity. A comprehensive list of 164 charitable organizations is available by visiting www.falmouthroadrace.com/charity-program. For more information on general registration, please visit www.falmouthroadrace.com.

“On the heels of Governor Charlie Baker’s announcement lifting all coronavirus restrictions in Massachusetts effective May 29, and after close consultation with the Town of Falmouth, public safety officials, our medical team, and our partners, we are excited to announce

a field of 8,000 in-person runners for the 49th ASICS Falmouth Road Race,” said Scott Ghelfi, president of the Falmouth Road Race, Inc. Board of Directors. “We are excited to welcome athletes back to Falmouth for this summer tradition and we look forward to welcoming a full field for our 50th running next August.”

Aside from the newly announced in-person portion, the 49th ASICS Falmouth Road Race will still feature a virtual SBLI Kids At-Home Challenge and the race’s At-Home Edition, where participants will lace up their running shoes and go seven miles in their own neighborhoods between Aug. 7 to 14.

For nearly 50 years, Falmouth Road Race, Inc. has promoted health, wellness and pride in the community. In these unprecedented and uncertain times, the organization is striving to be consistent in its mission, continuing to provide its dedicated athletes, enthusiasts, and the community with an event to be proud of and one that supports people in need.

For more information, or to register, visit www.falmouthroadrace.com. Follow us on Facebook or at @falmouth-roadrace on Instagram.

PATHFINDER | from page 9

celebrate a victory against St. Mary’s of Westfield in another home game on June 10.

The Pioneers (2-7) have three games remaining against Chicopee, Springfield Central, and Monson.

“It feels great to win our second game of the season against Granby,” said first-year Pathfinder head coach Mike Himes. “It was very important for us to take an early lead in today’s game.”

The Pioneers first two goals of the match were scored by junior attack Cody Ferus during the first two minutes of the opening quarter. The first goal by Ferus was assisted by senior midfielder Ethan Farrar. His second goal was unassisted.

A couple of minutes later, the visiting team took a 3-0 lead following a goal by senior midfielder Nick Beaulieu.

The other seniors listed on the Pathfinder roster besides Farrar and Beaulieu are Ryan Caron, Edmond Cousineau, Colin Gunter-Donaghy, Kieran Moe, and Ethan Roberts.

“We do have a large senior class this year,” Himes said. “They’ll be very hard to replace next year. We’ll need to add a few new players to our team.”

The home team got on the scoreboard for the first time when freshman attack Connor McDonnell bounced a shot into the cage past Pathfinder junior goalie Andrew Hurst for an unassisted goal with 6:11 remaining in the first quarter.

Four minutes later, Farrar scored a man-up goal and Beaulieu also scored a goal with a little more than a minute left in the first quarter giving the Pioneers a 5-1 lead.



Max Sanderson carries the ball for the Pioneers.

Neither team scored a goal during the second stanza, as the Rams failed to close the gap.

Four minutes into the third quarter, Arabik fired a shot into the cage cutting the Rams deficit to 5-2.

Farrar scored another goal for visiting team with 1:17 left in the third quarter giving the Pioneers a four-goal lead again at 6-2.

With 8:42 remaining in regulation, Ferus recorded a hat-trick with an unassisted goal.

“It was Cody’s first hat-trick of the season,” Himes said. “It was an exciting game for him. It also felt nice to come out on top for a change.”

The Pioneers final goal of the match was scored by Beaulieu late in the fourth quarter.

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| CLUES ACROSS | 33. Distinctive practices | 2. Replace the interior of | 27. Comments to the audience |
| 1. Most courageous | 34. Motor vehicles | 3. Not awake | 28. Tears down |
| 8. Insurance giant | 35. Electrodes | 4. Roman numeral 7 | 29. Gifts for the poor |
| 13. Small trace left behind | 38. Polish river | 5. Sun up in New York | 30. More painful |
| 14. In a way, signals | 39. Human feet | 6. Institute legal proceedings against | 32. Good friend |
| 15. The same letter or sound at the beginning | 44. Toppin and Kenobi are two | 7. Bugs homeowners don't want | 34. Lying in the same plane |
| 19. The Great Lakes State | 45. Blackbird | 8. Maltese-Italian composer | 35. Line in a polygon |
| 20. Engage in a contest | 46. One point west of due south | 9. Very long period of time | 36. Clouds of gas and dust |
| 21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish) | 47. Large beer | 10. Touchdown | 37. Norse god |
| 22. Manpower | 48. Third stomachs | 11. Agents of downfall | 38. Health care pro |
| 23. Undivided | 49. Rare Korean family name | 12. Complacently or inanely foolish | 40. Close tightly |
| 24. Strong, magnetic metal | 50. Hectoliter | 16. Argentina capital | 41. One's holdings |
| 25. People of Tanzania | 51. Aquatic invertebrate | 17. Buenos ___ | 42. Became less intense |
| 26. Sorts | 55. Where we live | 18. County in New Mexico | 43. Wilco frontman |
| 30. Cop car accessory | 57. Poked holes in | 19. An electrically charged atom | 45. Woman (French) |
| 31. Trade | 58. Partner to ways | 22. New Zealand conifer | 48. Expresses delight |
| 32. Sullen and ill-tempered | 59. ___ Ann | 25. Type of brandy | 51. TV channel (abbr.) |
| | CLUES DOWN | | 52. Beverage |
| | 1. Expressions of approval | | 53. Unit of work or energy |
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| | | | 56. Dorm worker |

‘SuperFan’ exhibit on display at Hall

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame recently hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony following its \$25+ million museum refurbishment which launched in 2017. Among the newest exhibits is the James F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery – a space dedicated to celebrating the most iconic fans of the game including Toronto’s Nav Bhatia, Los Angeles’s late SuperFan Penny Marshall and Jimmy Goldstein himself.

“The Basketball Hall of Fame is distinct in that we celebrate all levels and aspects of the game for both men and women,” said John Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. “We are excited to recognize the game’s greatest SuperFans in this unique exhibit showcasing their memorabilia and custom attire they’ve become known for at games. In tribute to all fans of the game, through their support and fanfare, SuperFans have certainly played a role in the game for many years. We look forward to continuing to recognize additional SuperFans in the years to come.”

Items on display in the exhibit include:

- Jimmy Goldstein iconic apparel and momentous tickets and credentials from his many years as a Super-Fan

- Nav Bhatia turban, SuperFan Jersey and court-side chair

- Penny Marshall collection of signed jerseys and shoes

- SuperFan stories and images shared through digitized media

“The game of basketball has brought me so much joy over the years, in Los Angeles and in the countless arenas around the world I’ve been fortunate to experience,” said Jimmy Goldstein, NBA SuperFan. “I’m proud to share some of my most favorite items I’ve collected over the years and be featured in this remarkable exhibit dedicated to the fans.”

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and James F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery are now open to the public. For more information, please call the Basketball Hall of Fame’s Ticket Office at (413) 231-5513 or visit www.hoophall.com.

PIONEERS | from page 9

scored a goal in a 2-0 win at AC Connecticut. “I just want to help my team win anyway that I can.”

Another first-year Pioneers player is Patrick Agyemang, who scored his first goal of the season in the home opener against the Seacoast United Phantoms, which ended in a 1-1 draw on May 21.

Agyemang scored his second goal at Lusitano Stadium during the fifth minute of last Friday’s match.

The scoring play began with Lerech sending a crossing pass to Agyemang on the right side. He then sprinted towards the goal before firing a low shot into the left corner past goalie Daniel Ather-ton.

“It was a great feeling scoring a goal in front of the home fans,” said Agyemang, who’s from East Hartford, Conn. “We played with a lot of energy right

from the start of tonight’s game. We also have a lot of depth, which is very important.”

The Pioneers managed to post their third shutout of the season without two key starters. Maxi Viera, who’s the Pioneers captain, and Connor Hicks, who’s from Monson, sat out the second home match of the season with injuries.

Agyemang and Lerech have built a good chemistry during the first six matches of the season.

“Ignacio and I have been working together at practice. The hard work paid off for us in tonight’s game,” Agyemang said. “We’re starting to gel as a team.”

A couple of minutes later, the Pioneers took a 2-0 lead when the ball deflected off a Malaga City defender into the net for an own goal.

During the 26th minute, Lerech received a pass from defend-


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Athlete of the Week



Danny Fiester

Monson High School

Fiester got a win at home for the Mustangs. Monson was able to get a leg up on St. Mary's in a matchup last week.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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MUSTANGS | from page 9

at the plate. He was safe at first base leading off the bottom half of the first following a fielding error by the Saints first baseman. Then centerfielder Connor Santos fisted a single into left field. After a double steal, Luke Hedspeth doubled to right field scoring both runners. A couple of batters later, junior right fielder Jaden Nava knocked home two more runs with a flyball single to right giving the Mustangs an early 4-0 advantage.

“It’s always nice to take an early lead in every game that you play,” Fiester said. “It gives you a

lot more confidence.”

Overall, the Mustangs stole six bases.

Fiester, who allowed a single in the first inning, walked two batters in the second inning before retiring the side in order in the next two frames. He gave up a leadoff single in the top of the fifth, but Hedspeth threw out that base runner trying to steal second base.

After scoring four runs in their first at-bats, the Monson offense was quiet until the fifth inning.

Santos, who leadoff the

bottom of the fifth by hitting a groundball single into left field, stole second base. He also stole third and scored on a throwing error by the catcher. Luke Hedspeth, who hit his second double of the game to right field, scored on an RBI single by junior short-stop Cam Daniels.

The home team would add two more runs in their final at-bats with the help of a couple of errors.

Daniels made an outstanding defensive play with one-out in the top of the seventh inning. He fielded a ground ball deep in the

hole and made an accurate throw to senior first baseman Cole Johnson.

“Cam made a great defensive play in the final inning,” Fiester said. “We didn’t make any errors in today’s game. It’s nice having a solid defense behind me.”

The Mustangs also posted a 4-0 home shutout win over Southwick the following afternoon. Santos, who’s planning to play college baseball at Nichols College, was the winning pitcher in that contest.

RACING | from page 9

ed out the top five.

Ben Byrne took control of the NHSTRA Modified main on lap three and never looked back. This was a wild one. Matt Kimball claimed the deuce, while Trevor Bleau marched forward twice to come home third aboard the Gomarlo 76 ride.

Aaron Fellows, like Bleau, recovered from earlier excitement to come home fourth. Kimmy Rivet was fifth, while points leader Todd Patnode was bounced around for 13th on the night.

Brehio’s strong run netted him runner-up honors, while youthful strongman Cam Curtis struggled with tire issues all night before claiming third when Robert Hagar, Ryan Currier, and Hayden Scott finished the show in a turn-two heap.

Tommy O’Sullivan charged from row six in the Street Stock main to take charge on lap 14 and then storm away to duplicate his opening night feature win. Strong and steady Paul Smith was the silver medalist, Nate Wenzel came home third, while points leader Chris Buffone struggled in

tenth.

Mini Stock musclemen Gordon Farnum and Ray King started side-by-side again, this week firing from row four. Farnum took the lead from Kevin Clayton and blasted off to his second win of the summer and, with it, passed King for the points lead.

Clayton completed his rock-solid outing in second, with potent Kevin Cormier coming home third.

Just three weeks ago, Jake Bosse was just a kid winning a couple of Young Guns features.

Saturday, the Greenfield, N.H. youth speedster took the Pure Stock lead from Cory Lofland on lap two and sped away to his career-first win, keeping 50-years-young star Chris Davis in his shadow the final 11 laps. JD Stockwell was strong in third.

Fast Eddie Petruskevicious led all the way in the caution-free Young Guns 15. He was joined in trophy row by Teagan Edson and Leilei Daniels.

Next Saturday, June 12, the NHSTRA Modifieds will run twin 35-lap Quest For The Cup

events atop a full card of racing at Monadnock Speedway. For more information, please visit www.monadnockspeedway.com.

MONADNOCK SPEEDWAY JUNE 5:

M.R.S. MILTON CAT 100 (Top 10): Jacob Perry, Tommy Barrett, Ronnie Williams, Matt Kimball, Kirk Alexander, Cory Plummer, Kyle James, Donnie Lashua, Cam Sontag, Nathan Wenzel.

NHSTRA MODIFIEDS: Ben Byrne, Matthew Kimball, Trevor Bleau, Aaron Fellows, Kimberley Rivet, Cory Plummer, Christopher Jackman, Eric LeClair, Kirby Goodrich, Tyler Leary, Scott MacMichael, 44-Brian Chapin, Todd Patnode, Solomon Brow, Cameron Sontag, Dave Salzarulo, James Cloutier, Cameron Houle

LATE MODEL SPORTSMEN (UNOFFICIAL): Justin Littlewood, Austin Brehio, Camdyn Curtis, Chase Curtis, Dan Comeau, Ryan Currier, Hayden Scott, Robert Hagar, Cole Littlewood, Nancy Muni Ruot.

STREET STOCKS: Tommy O’Sullivan, Paul Smith, Nathan Wenzel, Jason Kozacka, Hillary Renaud, Mike Radzuiik, Greg Williams, Chris Lindquist, Joe Arena, Chris Buffone, Keith Johnson, Nathaniel Nunez, Timothy Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Leighton Lutz

MINI STOCKS: Gordon Farnum, Kevin Clayton, Kevin Cormier, Louie Maher, Jeff Asselin, Kevin McKnight, Jake Puchalski, Ricky Whipple, Josh Hubbard, Bill Chaffee,

Jeff Heath, Matthew Lambert, Raymond King, Deion Russell, (DNS) Tim LeBlanc, (DNS Michael Douglas

PURE STOCKS: Jake Bosse, Chris Davis, JD Stockwell, Cory Lofland, Jason LeRay, Jimmy Zellman, Nick Houle, Carter Chamberlin, Billy Graham, Ryan Lawliss, Damien Houle, Kyle Robinson Newell, (DNS) Nathan Roy

YOUNG GUNS: Eddie Petruskevicious, Teagan Edson, Leilei Daniels, Eddie Gomar-lo, Jeff Moffat Jr., Aaliyah Tacy, Dominick Stafford.

DEATH NOTICES

John D. Bradway, 49
Died: Jan. 8, 2021
Graveside Service: 11 a.m.
June 18 at
Hillcrest Cemetery, Monson

Richard D. Boynton, 79
Died: June 2, 2021

Leonara S. Kohl (Sperry), 87
Died: May 30, 2021
Services will be private

Brendan McCarthy, 54
Died: June 6, 2021
Calling Hours 1-4 p.m.
June 12 at
Roberts and Sons Funeral Home

Irene A. Webber (Scarfe), 79
Died: May 28, 2021
Graveside Service 1:30
p.m. June 11 at
Hillcrest Park Cemetery,
Springfield

The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.
One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.
The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

O B I T U A R I E S

Richard D. Boynton, 79

WILBRAHAM – After a 27-month battle with pancreatic cancer, Richard “Pappy” Dean Boynton I passed away on June 2.
Richard was born on June 5, 1942, in Palmer to Sylvia (Kowalczyk) Boynton and Herbert Boynton.

After graduating from Minnechaug Regional High School, Richard served for 42 years in the Army, National Guard and the Air Force.

Among his many occupations, he worked at Quaboag Transfer, Spec Pond in Wilbraham and Westover Air Reserve Base, where he retired in 2004.

Though he was born in Palmer, Richard spent much of his life in Wilbraham. For many who knew him, Richard had an

enthusiastic sense of humor and would tell jokes whenever he got the chance. He enjoyed working, going on his “round robins” and, more than anything else, his family.

He was predeceased by his mother Sylvia Boynton, wife Marlene Boynton, his son Richard Dean Boynton II, and his daughter-in-law Deanna Boynton.

Richard will be remembered and deeply missed by his three children Daniel Boynton of Bondsville, Deanne Sidur and son-in-law Todd Sidur of Ware, and Natasha Boynton and her partner Daniel McCall; his grand-



children Anne-Marie Teixeira and her husband Michael Teixeira, Richard Boynton, Kayla Forte and her husband Joseph Forte, Lauren Sidur, Abigail Sidur, Megan Sidur, Melina Bourdeau, Majel Bourdeau and Seth Bourdeau; his great-grandsons Mason Teixeira and Brody Forte.

He also leaves behind many loved ones (especially those who call him “Grampy”).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Wilbraham Senior Center, 45B Post Office Park Wilbraham, MA 01095.

John D. Bradway, 49

DUBLIN, OHIO — John D. Bradway, 49, passed away Jan. 8, 2021, at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

John was born Oct. 1, 1971, to David P. Bradway and the late Joyce (Warminger) Bradway. John grew up in Monson and was a graduate of Monson High School. He continued his education at the University of Vermont and was a graduate of Cornell University School of Hotel Management. John was successful in the hotel management industry. His resume included The Breakers in West Palm Beach, Fla., The Cliff House in Maine,

The Hermitage Hotel in Nashville, Tenn., and several other resorts located in Jamaica, New York City and Palm Beach Florida.

John leaves his father, David P. Bradway and his wife Noreen of Monson; sisters, Julie Schofield of Dublin, Ohio, Collen Madison and her husband Eric of Hampden, Kathleen Corish of Monson, Shelly Off of Des Moines, Iowa, and Karen Bradway of South Hadley as well as many nieces and nephews.



A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 18, at Hillcrest Cemetery on Wilbraham Road in Monson. A gathering of family and friends will follow the service at the Bradway’s home on East Hill Road in Monson.

In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial contribution in John’s name to the Dakin Humane Society 171 Union St. Springfield, MA 01105.

Leonora S. (Sperry) Kohl, 87

MONSON — Leonora S. (Sperry) Kohl, 87, passed away May 30, 2021.

Born June 12, 1933, in Providence, R.I., Leonora was the daughter of Henry N. and Dorothy D. (Rhodes) Sperry. Leonora has been a lifelong resident of Monson and worked as a substitute teacher and worked at Mass Mutual in Springfield for many years. She went on to work for Pension Associates, also in Springfield.

Being very involved with her family, she was a mother advisor for the Rainbow Girls, a 4-H leader and also part of the Eastern Star. Leonora loved to sew and appreciated the melodies of big band music. Her love

of travel and many family vacations filled her years with joy and laughter.

Leonora was predeceased by her first husband, John L. Wright, in 1981; her second husband, Jacob Kohl, in 2008; and her grandson, David Wright, in 2018. Her love will forever remain with her children, Carol Courchesne of Manchester, Conn.; Judy Slater and husband Lou of Monson, Marcia Wright and Marty of Wildwood, Fla., and Dottie Coffey and husband Daniel of Stonington, Conn., along with grandchildren Douglas Courchesne,



Amy Arnold, Adrienne Lapham, Elizabeth Laroche, Irving Arnold III, and Kyle Arnold. She also is survived by seven great-grandchildren: Luke, Leah, Cali, Olivia, Abby, Irvie, and Mila and her beloved dog of 15 years, Charlie.

A private service will be held at Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. For those wishing, donations may be made in her memory to Dakin Humane Society, 171 Union St., Springfield, MA. For details, visit beer-sandstory.com.

O B I T U A R I E S

Brendan McCarthy, 54

On Sunday, June 6, 2021, Brendan McCarthy, a loving husband and father to four children, passed away at the age of 54.

Brendan was born on Aug. 28, 1966, and grew up in Foxborough alongside his brothers and sister.

Brendan always had a passion for helping others and turned that passion into a career. He was a devoted paramedic, firefighter, and chief for over 35 years in the towns of Foxborough, Plainville, Easton, and Brimfield.

Brendan was a fighter and battled many illnesses for the

past five years. His easy-going personality and wonderful sense of humor never seemed to diminish with his hardships.

He is survived by his wife Alison; his daughters Morgan and Keely; and sons Todd and Brendan. He is the son of the late Paul and Mary (McGurl) McCarthy; brother of Mary McCarthy, Paul McCarthy and his wife Vita, James McCarthy and his wife Wende, Jay McCarthy and his wife Kellie, Sean McCarthy and his wife Linda



and Timothy McCarthy and his wife Erin.

Calling hours will be held 1-4 p.m. Saturday, June 12, at the Roberts and Sons Funeral Home, 30 South Street in Foxboro. To send an online condolence, go to robertsandsonsfuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Brendan’s memory may be made to the Diabetes Association, 330 Congress Street #501, Boston, MA 02210 or www.diabetes.org.

Irene A. (Scarfe) Webber, 79

MONSON — Irene A. (Scarfe) Webber, 79, passed away Friday, May 28, 2021, surrounded by love in her home.

Irene was born Sept. 7, 1941, in Springfield to the late Clarence and Norma (Grimshaw) Scarfe. She was a graduate of Springfield schools and has been a resident of Monson for many years where she raised her family. Irene was a school bus driver for the Town of Monson for over 30 years. She had a creative side and enjoyed arts and crafts, sew-

ing and crocheting. She loved the Christmas season and every year she and her daughter would decorate and create a “Winter Wonderland” in their home.

Irene was predeceased by her husband, Robert E. Webber, Sr. in 2011. She leaves her son, Robert E. Webber Jr. and his wife Isolde of Monson; and her daughter, Cynthia Webber of Monson as well as many nieces, nephews and a close friend James Fields.

Irene was predeceased by

her siblings, Henry Scarfe, Clarence Scarfe, Margaret Terwilliger and Ella Duquette.

A graveside service will be held 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 11, at Hillcrest Park Cemetery on Parker St. in Springfield.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution in memory of Irene to Sunshine Village 75 Litwin Lane Chicopee, MA 01020. For online condolences/directions visit lombardfuneralhome.com.

Police/Fire

Police Logs

PALMER POLICE

The Palmer Police Department responded to 372 calls and made six arrests or summons for arrests June 1-8. Those arrested will appear at the Palmer District Court and are innocent until proven guilty:

Tuesday, June 1

Joseph Christopher Taylor, 40, of 275 Meagan Beth Rd., Apopka, was arrested at 3:11 p.m., on three docket warrants.

Saturday, June 6

Martin W. Henrick 43, no address available, was arrested at 5:18 p.m., on charges of vandalizing property and disorderly conduct.

Fire Logs

PALMER FIRE DEPT.

The Palmer Fire Department responded to four calls June 1-7:

On Tuesday, June 1, at 5:54 p.m., the department responded to an oil spill on Beacon Street. The department returned to service at 6:40 p.m.

On Saturday, June 5, at 12:51 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Vicardav Avenue. The department returned to service at 1:46 p.m.

On Sunday, June 6, at 9:20 p.m., the department responded to a smoke detector activation on Thorn-dike Street. The department returned to service at 9:58 p.m.

On Monday, June 7, at 8:52 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on North Main Street. The department returned to service at 9:15 p.m.

THREE RIVERS FIRE DEPT.

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to three calls May 29 – June 7:

On Friday, June 4, at 12:30 p.m., the department responded to a smoke investigation call on Main Street. The department returned to service at 12:45 p.m.

On Monday, June 7, at 3:04 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Main Street. The department returned to service at 3:48 p.m.

On Monday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m., the department responded to a public assistance call on Springfield Street. The department returned to service at 6:02 p.m.

BONDSVILLE FIRE DEPT.

The Bondsville Fire Department responded to no calls June 1 – 7:

MONSON FIRE DEPT.

The Monson Fire Department responded to two fire calls and 19

EMS calls May 31 – June 6:

On Tuesday, June 1, at 5:08 p.m., the department to a smoke investigation call on Main Street. The department returned to service at 5:44 p.m.

On Thursday, June 3, at 5:01 p.m., the department assisted with an EMS call on Palmer Road. The department returned to service at 5:45 p.m.



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POSTPONEMENT: We are so sorry but our May Scrabble Night and our May Basket Raffle will be postponed. At this time we are uncertain as to when they will be rescheduled.

POSITION AVAILABLE

TFL is seeking a **Director of Adult Literacy/Operations Officer** who is passionate about helping adult learners meet their educational goals. The successful candidate will work closely with TFL’s Board of Trustees, tutors, students, volunteers, and community businesses/organizations of the Quaboag Hills region and surrounding areas. General responsibilities will include: • Recruiting, matching, and training volunteer tutors. • Organizing and administering all programs of adult instruction, such as ESL, Reading, Writing, Math, HiSET, Computer Skills, and many more! • Being aware of community educational needs and interests. • Providing educational guidance to assist adult learners in meeting their educational goals. • Coordinating fundraising and promotional efforts with a team of volunteers. This position requires 20-30 hours per week and is a year-round position. Interested candidates should send their resumes to topfloorlearningpalmer@gmail.com.

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Monthly self-exams save lives: breast health important all year round

SPRINGFIELD, WESTFIELD — If a problem can’t be seen, it can’t be solved, and when it comes to health care, the earlier a health condition is detected, the sooner steps can be taken to treat it. Although facing fears around diseases can be challenging, early detection of breast cancer, for example, can mean a 99% five-year survival rate, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. That’s why a plan including both breast self-exams (BSEs) and mammograms is important.

“Regular self-exams help people become more familiar with their breasts, so that subtle changes are more easily detectable, which could identify possible warning signs of cancer early on,” said Patience Marks, WHNP-BC, a certified women’s health nurse practitioner at Women’s Health Associates in Westfield and Springfield. “We hear a lot about breast cancer during the month of October, which is

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but breast self-exams should be performed once a month, all year round.”

Marks offers these tips for BSEs:

- Perform BSEs at the same time each month, but not during a menstrual cycle.
- Check breasts twice, both while lying down and while standing up.
- Look for any changes in size or color.
- With the inner pads of the three middle fingers, use a circular or up and down motion across each breast.
- Feel for any lumps or thickening of the breast. These aren’t necessarily indications of cancer but should be reported to a health care provider right away.

“BSEs are just one of the exams we recommend women have on a regular basis to improve their chances of early detection and treatment, as well as for overall health and quality of life,” said Marks.

For best results in disease prevention, she noted women should have additional regular exams, including Pap smears, breast and pelvic exams, mammograms, bone density screening and STD tests.

The providers at Women’s Health Associates offer annual well-woman checkups that include lifestyle and risk factor discussions, a physical exam and any necessary tests. For more information, visit WHAOB-GYN.com.



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ER physician reviews summer water safety



PALMER – It feels like summer is officially here! As temperatures rise, people may be looking for fun ways to cool off and stay active. Water activities like swimming, diving, canoeing, boating, and water skiing, offer relief during these hot summer months, but it’s important to remember many injuries can happen during recreational water activities.

“When we think of water safety, we generally think of swimming pools,” said Dr. Richard Romano, Emergency Department staff physician at Baystate Wing Hospital. “But there are many other places where water safety should be practiced. It’s important to remember that drowning can happen anywhere there is water, including swimming pools, ponds, and lakes and even in the presence of lifeguards.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every day, 10 people die from unintentional drowning. Of these, one in five are children ages 14 and under.

“Drowning is a quick and silent killer,” said Romano. “The majority of children who drown in swimming pools were last seen in the home, had been out of sight for less than five minutes, and were in the care of one or both parents at the time of the drowning. In the time it takes to cross the room for a towel (10 seconds), a child in the bathtub can become submerged. In the time it takes to answer the phone (two minutes), that child can lose consciousness. In the time it takes to sign for a package at your front door (four to six minutes), a child submerged in the bathtub or pool can sustain permanent brain damage.”

“The best way to prevent drowning is through the “touch supervision” technique, which means being within an arm’s length of the child at all times, able to reach them and pull them from the water immediately,” said Romano.

“Remember also that inflatable aids, such as water wings and tubes, are not substitutes for adult supervision and that swimming lessons are an important step, but they do not make a child “drown-proof,” said Romano. “Teach children about the importance of always being with an adult and always swimming with a buddy.”

Children are not the only ones that need to practice water safety, adolescents and adults do too. According to the CDC, drowning is the third most common cause of accidental death among those under age 16.

“Young people who drown are often victims of their own misjudgment of their swimming ability,” said Romano. “They may view a river or a lake as a tempting means of cooling off in a hot

spell, but fail to appreciate the harmful effects that the cold water can have on stamina and strength.”

“Learning how to swim is important for folks of all ages. Those who don’t know how to swim can very easily find themselves in water over their heads with little time to call for help and they can submerge and drown very quickly,” he said.

“Alcohol reduces body temperature and impairs swimming ability, balance, coordination, and judgment and its effects are heightened by sun exposure and heat,” said Romano offering these additional water safety tips:

- Never swim alone.
- Take swimming lessons.
- Make sure you are ready to respond in case of an emergency: have an emergency phone near the body of water, and learn how to perform CPR.
- Have a pool fence and keep toys away from the pool. Toys can attract young children into the pool.
- Check the water temperature before swimming. Cold water can tax the body and make it difficult to swim well.
- Do not swim if you have been drinking or if you have taken medication that alters your medical status.
- Make sure pool-cleaning equipment, such as brushes and skimmers on long poles don’t come in contact with power lines.
- Pool goers should take precautions against E. Coli. Swimming pools can be a breeding ground for dangerous microorganisms. Chlorine helps maintain a clean and safe pool.
- Toddlers should wear proper swim diapers designed to contain urine and feces.
- Empty all buckets, containers and wading pools immediately after use. Store them upside-down and out of children’s reach.
- Know the local weather conditions and forecast before swimming or boating.

See someone drowning?

- Call 9-1-1 immediately.
- If the victim is within throwing distance, throw a floatable object to them. This includes a life jacket, kick board, or even an empty gallon jug.
- If the victim is within reaching distance, assist them by extending something long, such as a rope, pole, ring buoy, or a tree branch.
- If someone must enter the water to assist someone, take a flotation device large enough to carry two adults safely. The device should be kept between the rescuer and the person in distress; even a child can put an adult at risk in deep water.

State Fire Marshal offers summer fire safety tips

State Fire Marshall Peter J. Ostroskey shared a number of fire safety tips to residents recently. “Between the pandemic and the long New England winter, we’re all itching to get outside and enjoy ourselves,” said Ostroskey. “Memorial Day weekend is a good time to prevent fires: tune up the grill; teach teens about gasoline safety; set up safe receptacles for smoking materials; and leave the fireworks to the professionals.”

sprinklers and damages were estimated at \$110,000.

Charcoal grills

Propane is the most common grilling fuel, but many people use charcoal grills. Here are some charcoal grill safety tips:

- Only use charcoal starter fluid. Do not use gasoline or kerosene to start a fire in a grill.
- Never add lighter fluid to burning briquettes or hot coals. Doing so may cause a flash fire and result in serious burn injuries.
- Charcoal briquettes give off carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. Always use charcoal grills outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Never use charcoal grills indoors.
- For proper disposal of grill ashes, allow the coals to burn out completely and then cool for 48 hours before disposal.
- If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, thoroughly soak them in water before putting them in a metal container.

Gasoline and lawnmowers

“Is your teenager finally old enough to mow the lawn? Then be sure to discuss gasoline safety at the same time; talk about why it is important to let the engine cool before refueling,” Ostroskey said. Gasoline vapors are highly flammable and refueling a hot motor can ignite them. Gasoline spilled onto clothing can give off vapors until completely dry and be ignited by any heat source. Gasoline vapors can travel a long distance to find an ignition source, which is why gasoline cannot be stored inside the house. In the past five years (2016-2020), 338 lawn mower fires caused one civilian death, three civilian injuries, four fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$1.6 million.

- Store gasoline outside only in approved containers.
- Keep gasoline away from all heat sources, such as smoking materials, pilot lights, campfires, and grills.
- Refuel a cooled lawn mower. Never refill while it is hot.
- Keep hands and feet away from a mower while it is running.

On May 20, 2020, the Charlton Fire Department was called to a riding lawn mower fire. The owner stated that he had just given it a tune up and was mowing the lawn when he saw flames coming out from under the hood.

On May 30, 2020, at 7:35 p.m., the Leominster Fire Department responded to a lawn mower fire in a back yard. The lawn mower backfired as it was being shut down and caught fire.

On July 24, 2020, at 12:51 p.m., the Northbridge Fire Department responded to a garden tractor fire in a backyard. The gas tank had recently been filled and the fire started shortly after starting.

Gasoline and outdoor fires

“Never use gasoline to start a campfire or add it to any indoor or outdoor fire,” said Ostroskey. “We have had so many injuries this year from people mishan-



dling gasoline and other flammable liquids.” In the past five years (2016 – 2020), Massachusetts hospitals have reported treating 137 people with serious burn injuries from gasoline.

On Friday, July 24, 2020, a 43-year old Lanesborough woman was severely burned over 70% of her body surface area when pouring gasoline onto a campfire.

On Sunday, July 19, 2020, a 39-year old Lawrence woman received burns to multiple parts of her body when someone poured gasoline onto a barbeque.

Smoking safety

Smoking was the leading cause of fire deaths in Massachusetts last year, and there have been many fires this spring from improperly discarded smoking materials on porches and in backyards. These fires can smolder undetected for a long time and when they erupt into flames, they travel fast. If they start on the exterior of the building, these fires can get a strong hold before the interior smoke alarms start to warn anyone of the danger.

“If you allow smoking on your property, provide appropriate receptacles for discarding smoking materials: a deep ashtray, a can with sand or water. Don’t let people toss smoking materials into the mulch, leaves, grass, potted plants or other containers that can catch fire. Don’t let them stub them out on the porch railing or stairs,” said Ostroskey. “Be a responsible smoker. Remember to put it out, all the way, every time.”

On Feb., 2021, at 12:30 a.m., the Milford Fire Department responded to a fire at a single-family home. The fire was started by a cigarette on a rear porch. Two people were injured at this fire. Smoke alarms alerted the occupants. The home did not have sprinklers and damages were estimated to be \$270,000.

On March 18, 2021, the Carlisle Fire Department was called to a smoking fire in a single-family home. A cigarette ignited a porch rug. Smoke alarms alerted the occupants and no one was injured. There were no fire sprinklers and damages were estimated to be \$110,000.

On April 19, 2020 a fire in two apartment buildings in New Bedford killed two men, ages 40 and 49. It also displaced 40 other residents of two buildings. The fire was started in an alley way

by smoking materials that were dropped from an upper floor landing in and igniting trash and debris near a dumpster.

Fireworks fires increase

“The possession and use of all fireworks by private citizens is illegal in Massachusetts,” Ostroskey said. This includes sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers and cherry bombs, and more. “Leave fireworks to the professionals, and enjoy supervised displays,” he said. “It is illegal to purchase fireworks in another state and transport them into or possess them in Massachusetts,” he added. Last year, fires from fireworks increased 180% from 2019.

Around 11 p.m. on June 14, 2020, the Worcester Fire Department responded to a fire in a three-decker started by illegal fireworks. People were shooting off fireworks in the neighborhood and one landed on and ignited the roof. Eleven people were displaced from their home. Smoke alarms failed to operate and damages were estimated to be \$145,739.

On Monday Aug. 10, 2020, the Orange Fire Department and several surrounding communities responded to a brush fire on Tully Mountain in Orange. It took several days to put out in the rugged terrain amid hot and humid weather. Remnants of fireworks and a campfire were found at the seat of the fire.

On July 20, 2020, at 12:30 p.m., a 43-year old Turners Falls man suffered a serious leg injury from illegal fireworks.

On July 9, 2019, a 4-year old Boston girl grabbed a burning sparkler that someone else was holding and received burns to her left hand.

In the past decade (2011-2020), there have been 941 major fires and explosions involving illegal fireworks in Massachusetts. These incidents resulted in 12 civilian injuries, 42 fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$2.1 million.

Burn first aid

- Stop, drop, cover and roll to extinguish a clothing fire.
- Cool a burn. For minor burns, run cool water over the burn immediately.
- Seek emergency medical help immediately for more serious burns. Call 9-1-1.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our 20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.

Thanks to our wonderful “Friends,” volunteers and patrons.

Hours:

Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm
Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours.

Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books.

We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

Over 10,000 Pounds Of Pet Food Donated To Dakin Humane Society for low-income owners

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society’s 2021 Pet Food Drive, held during the month of April, yielded more than 10,000 pounds of pet food by month’s end, according to Dakin’s Executive Director Carmine DiCenso.

In previous years, the non-profit held pet food drives for a

one-week period, but the enormous increase in demand for pet food that began during the pandemic led to the decision to make it a month-long effort.

“In a typical year before 2020, we’d provide about 25,000 pounds or so of pet food annually,” said Director of Marketing and Development

Stacey Price. “Last year, however, we distributed more than five times that amount. It showed us how much our community needed help, especially as jobs were lost and families with pets faced food insecurity. Some people told us that they never thought they’d need our help. Thankfully we had pet food for them, but we knew we had to expand our food drive plans for 2021 and be able to continue to support those who need it.”

Dakin’s Pet Food Aid Program was created more than 15 years ago to help families facing temporary hardship in feeding their pets. The pet food is available at Dakin, and is also distributed to area food banks as a helpful addition to the goods provided for people to consume.

From April 1-30, people throughout the Pioneer Valley brought pet food to more than a dozen businesses that volunteered to act as drop-off locations.

“While we had hoped to hit our goal of twenty thousand pounds of pet food, we are pleased to have received the amount of pet food that we did,” noted DiCenso. “Everyone who donated an item has truly made a difference in the life of a vul-

nerable companion animal and the person or family that loves them, and their kindness won’t be forgotten. We’re also grateful for our local business partners who participated as drop-off sites and hosted supply drives, as well as our volunteers who collected the donations. So many people worked hard on this food drive to benefit the animals in our care and in our community.”

Dakin Humane Society delivers effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them. In a typical year, the organization shelters, treats and fosters more than 20,000 animals and has performed over 100,000 spay/neuter surgeries since 2009, making it New England’s largest spay/neuter provider. Dakin is a local non-profit organization that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses that care about animals to bring its services to the community. For more information, visit www.dakinhumane.org.

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Public notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Order 11990 (Wetlands) and Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides final notice of its decision to provide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding for an action located in a wetland. Funding would be provided through Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to the Town of Palmer to replace an undersized stone culvert and improve stormwater infrastructure.

The project is located over Scott’s Brook, just north of the intersection of Route 181 and Thorndike Road. The stone box and its two corroded metal pipes would be replaced with a larger concrete box culvert, wingwalls, stormwater spillways and water quality detention basins. The new culvert would address problems with clogging, flooding, reduction in water quality, increased flow velocity (barrier to fish passage), and scouring. The stormwater detention basins would mitigate discharges to the stream through infiltration. Approximately 120SF of ground disturbance would take place, with some tree removal, land grading, top soiling, and plantings.

The project is within a mapped riverine wetland and near freshwater forested wetland. Temporary disturbance to ground, vegetation, and stream flow would be mitigated through best management practices for erosion and siltation control and a design that conforms to current MA Stream Crossing Standards. A map of the area is available upon request.

The action must be in a wetland to provide stream crossing for an existing road. Alternatives considered included “no action” and three culvert designs. The preferred alternative can carry a 100-year flood event, treat stormwater, and increase fish passage. It’s cost-effective and meets project objectives and current standards except for openness ratio. However, it’s a significant improvement compared to

the “no action” alternative. Grant conditions will require compliance with all federal, state, and local laws including permitting from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and MassDEP.

Map requests and comments about this project and potential wetland impacts should be submitted within 15 days of the date of this publication to:

Karen Vale
Federal Emergency
Management Agency,
Boston, MA
karen.valevasilev@fema.dhs.gov; (202) 699-0650
and
Eric Kuns, Senior
Environmental Protection
Specialist
Federal Emergency
Management Agency,
Boston, MA
eric.kuns@fema.dhs.gov; (202) 805-9089
06/10/2021

**LEGAL NOTICE
MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joseph Martowski to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., dated April 6, 2006 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 15819, Page 239 (the “Mortgage”), as affected by a Foreclosure Deed dated July 8, 2009, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 17928, Page 53 of which mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee of the Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series INABS 2006-C, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series INABS 2006-C under Pooling and Servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., its successors and assigns to Deutsche Bank National Trust

Company, solely as Trustee and not in its individual capacity for the Home Equity Mortgage Trust, Series INABS 2006-C under the pooling and servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 dated June 5, 2009 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 17928, Page 49, and Foreclosure Deed from Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, solely as Trustee and not in its individual capacity for the Home Equity Mortgage Trust, Series INABS 2006-C under the pooling and servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, As Trustee For Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series Inabs 2006-C, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series Inabs 2006-C under Pooling and Servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 dated July 8, 2009 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 17928, Page 53, and Assignment from Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, solely as Trustee and not in its individual capacity for the Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust, Series INABS 2006-C under pooling and servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee of the Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series INABS 2006-C, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series INABS 2006-C under Pooling and Servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006 dated April 24, 2013 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 19803, Page 281, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 3030 Main Street, Bondsville (Palmer), MA 01009 will be sold at a Public Auction at **12:00 PM on June 23, 2021**, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of

land, with buildings thereon situate in the village of Bondsville in said Palmer, known and designated as Lot No. 13 (thirteen) on a plan of land in said Bondsville owned by Bondsville, Realty, Inc. Dated December 5, 1942, duly recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans 21 Page 100, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning as a stone bound in the westerly side line of Main Street at the southeasterly corner of land now or formerly of Anna Leach, thence running S. 88 51’ W. Along said land now or formerly of Anna Leach seventy (70) feet to a point; thence running

NORTHEASTERLY along a bank and along land now or formerly of the Bondsville Realty, Inc., one hundred sixty-eight (168) feet to a point; thence running

S. 81 09” E. Along last named land thirty-six (36) feet to a point in the Westerly line of Main Street; thence running

S. 8 51” W. Along the westerly line of Main Street; (50) feet to a stone bound; thence running S 16” 30” W. Along said westerly side line of Main Street ninety-nine and 93/100 (99.93) feet, to the point of beginning, said lot containing 7,7000 square feet, more or less.

TOGETHER with and SUBJECT to pipe and drainage rights of record insofar as the same may be in force and applicable.

For mortgagor’s title see deed recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 15819, Page 235.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier’s or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee’s attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee of the Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series INABS 2006-C, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series INABS 2006-C under Pooling and Servicing agreement dated June 1, 2006

Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Martowski, Joseph,
20-037534
05/27, 06/03, 06/10/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town of Monson/ Monson Public Schools will receive sealed proposals for the lease of a school van maintenance facility to be located within 5 miles of 43 Margaret Street, Monson, MA, for a period of one year, with two option years at the sole discretion of the Monson Public Schools.

A complete Request for Proposal packet including sample lease may be obtained by contacting Leah Zippin, Director of Business and Operations at 413-267-4150 ext. 4918 or by email at zippinl@monsonschools.com

Sealed proposals are available immediately and will be opened publicly at **11:00 a.m. on July 9, 2021** in the Business Office of the Monson Public Schools, 43 Margaret Street, Monson, MA 01057

The Superintendent and/ or the Director of Business and Operations reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to accept the proposal deemed to be in the best interest of the Monson Public Schools – Transportation Department. 06/10, 06/17/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600**

**Docket No. HD21P0761EA
Estate of: Alice May Nothe
Date of Death:
March 25, 2021**

**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Charles G. Nothe** of West Melbourne, FL.

Charles G. Nothe of West Melbourne, FL has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the

Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 06/10/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family
Court Department
Hampden Division**

**Docket No.
HD08P184334CV1
NOTICE OF
TRUSTEE’S ACCOUNT**

To all persons interested in the estate of **ROBERT L SHAW** of Palmer, Hampden County, MA, a protected person.

You are hereby notified pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 72 that the Thirty-second Account(s) inclusive of TD Bank, N.A., and Benjamin Shaw, Jr. Trustees under a written instrument for the benefit of said **ROBERT L. SHAW** have been presented to said Court for allowance.

If you desire to preserve your right to file an objection to said account(s), you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said court at Springfield on or before the **25th day of June, 2021**, the return day of this citation. You may upon written request by registered or certified mail to the fiduciary, or to the attorney for the fiduciary, obtain without cost a copy of said accounts. If you desire to object to any item of said accounts, you must, in addition to filing a written appearance as aforesaid, file within thirty days after said return day or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order a written statement of each such item together with the grounds for each objection thereto, a copy to be served upon the fiduciary pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 5.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of said Court at Springfield this 25th day of May, 2021.

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/10/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600**

**Docket No. HD21P1021EA
Estate of: Carolina Petit
Date of Death:
Dec 5, 2019
NOTICE OF INFORMAL
PROBATE**

G.L. c. 1908, § 3-306

To all persons who have or may have some interest in the above-captioned estate and, if interested, to the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Veterans Affairs, notice is hereby given on May 24, 2021 that the Petitioner **Kenneth Petit** of Monson, MA intends to file with the above-named Probate and Family Court, not sooner than seven (7) days after this notice, a

Petition for Informal Probate of a Will

Petition for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative, to serve without surety on the bond

Kenneth Petit of Monson, MA

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 06/10/2021

**PALMER FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE AND
PALMER WATER DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT MEETING
WARRANT**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Hampden, ss. Town of Palmer**

TO: William K. Cole, Clerk of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One.

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the qualified voters of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One to meet in the Palmer Public Library, N. Main Street, in Depot Village, of said Palmer on **Wednesday, the 23rd day of JUNE, 2021** at seven o'clock in the evening, to act on the following Articles.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside at the meeting.

ARTICLE 2. To choose by ballot the following officers:
For a term of one (1) year:
One (1) Auditor
For a term of three (3) years:
One (1) Member of the Prudential Committee
One (1) Water Commissioner

ARTICLE 3. To hear and act on reports of district officers and committees.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to pay the salaries expenses and operating expenses for the Fire Department for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to pay the salaries expenses and operating expenses for the District Treasurer, District Clerk, Tax Collector, Assessors and Auditor for fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the District will vote to empower the Water Department, through the use of its receipts and revenues, to expend funds to defray the expenses for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the District will vote to transfer any sums of money from Free Cash to reduce the tax levy for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see of the District will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and acts in amendment thereof, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to a Reserve Fund-Fire Account for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the District will vote to establish a Reserve Fund-Water Account and to appropriate from

water receipts a sum of money to the Reserve Fund-Water Account in accordance with Section 5C of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the district will vote to appropriate from free cash a sum of money to repay an obligation to Farmer's Home Administration for the remodeling of the Fire Station, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to purchase a Hurst Portable Extrication Edraulic Ram Tool, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to refinish and paint the exterior of the fire department headquarters, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to repay an obligation to Monson Saving for the new pumper fire truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the District will vote to revoke its acceptance of Chapter 399 of the Acts of 1943 of the Massachusetts Special Acts, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the District will vote to accept the provisions of Section 42 of Chapter 48 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to expend from Water Department receipts a sum of money for improvements on the 2004 Chevy truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To choose committees and give them instructions.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof and publishing an attested copy thereof in one issue of The Journal Register, a newspaper published in said Palmer, the publication to be not less than seven (7) days before the holding of said meeting, said postings to be fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting, at the offices of Palmer Fire District Number One and Palmer Water District Number One, Walnut Street, and at the Palmer Town Administration Building, all in said Palmer.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doing thereon, before the holding of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of June, 2021.

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE OF PALMER
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE AND
PALMER WATER DISTRICT NUMBER ONE**

James L. St. Amand, Chairman
Daniel Belanger

A True Copy,
ATTEST:
William K. Cole, Clerk
06/10/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

To the owners of the hereinafter described parcels of land situated in PALMER in the county of HAMPDEN and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to all others concerned:

You are hereby notified that on **THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Palmer Town Hall pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 53 as amended, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes -

It is my intention to take for the TOWN OF PALMER the following parcels of land for non-payment after demand, of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

AUGUSTINE JOHN & HUNTER ROBERT
LAND & BUILDING located at PALMER ST in PALMER, containing 1,250.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 7010900, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 19906/241.
Tax for FY-2018 \$140.24

CLARK STEPHANIE
LAND located at JIM ASH ST in PALMER, containing 27,007.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 4000100, recorded at HAMPSHIRE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 1227/376.
Tax for FY-2018 \$25.02

COGGINS SCOTT R
SUPPOSED SUBSEQUENT OWNER: ROBARE, MICHAEL A
LAND located at RONDEAU ST in PALMER, containing 4.800 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map 37036H3, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 10850/168, 22145/497.
Tax for FY-2018 \$999.21

HAWK RANDY E & FRANCINE A
LAND & BUILDING located at 3014 CROSS ST in PALMER, containing 6,482.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 9004200, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 6769/196.
Tax for FY-2018 \$2,333.26

**LEMON SR WILLIAM F TRUSTEE
C/O HIGH STREET REALTY TRUST**
LAND located at HIGH ST in PALMER, containing 16,600.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 8007400, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 14223/304.
Tax for FY-2018 \$224.11

NUNES HELDER F & KARI A
LAND located at BAPTIST HILL ST TRIV) in PALMER, containing 1.540 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map 1701301, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 18429/548.
Tax for FY-2018 \$1,351.69

NUNES HELDER F & KARI A
LAND located at BAPTIST HILL ST in PALMER, containing 1.380 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map 1701302, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 18429/548.
Tax for FY-2018 \$1,342.52

**OCWEN LOAN SERVICING LLC TO SECRETARY OF HUD
SUPPOSED SUBSEQUENT OWNER: WU, YAN W**
LAND located at HIGH ST in PALMER, containing 2,190.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 8209900, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 21373/47, 21811/443.
Tax for FY-2018 \$149.83

PLACANICO JOSEPH & NANCY J
LAND & BUILDING located at 131 BRECKENRIDGE ST in PALMER, containing 20,000.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 5903200, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 8443/503.
Tax for FY-2018 \$1,741.69

PYTKA EDWARD F
LAND located at L1 BELCHERTOWN ST in PALMER, containing 10,000 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map 2300100 recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 1446/47.
Tax for FY-2018 \$2,084.81

**ROHAN RICHARD B & MARTHA M
SUPPOSED SUBSEQUENT OWNER: SULLIVAN, MARGARET**
LAND & BUILDING located at 9 DEBORAH ST in PALMER, containing 11,112.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 5906500, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 5877/553, 22044/127.
Tax for FY-2018 \$637.60

ROTH NICHOLAS J & KRISTINE L
LAND located at BRECKENRIDGE ST in PALMER, containing 3,990 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map 1302701, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 21373/382.
Tax for FY-2018 \$66.07

STANLEY THOMAS W
LAND & BUILDING located at 4192 HIGH ST in PALMER, containing 37,026.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 8002400, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 14434/162.
Tax for FY-2018 \$3,486.60

THORNDIKE ANNEX LLC
LAND & BUILDING located at MAIN ST in PALMER, containing 39,610.000 SQ FT shown on Assessor's Map 8202001, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book/Page 21287/264.
Tax for FY-2018 \$1,703.20

Carolyn I Baldyga, Tax Collector

06/10/2021

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3

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MISCELLANEOUS

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SERVICES

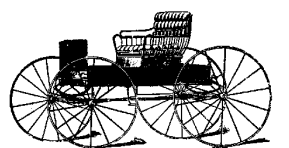
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***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

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HELP WANTED

HIGHWAY LABORER/HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR The Town of Monson is seeking a full-time Highway Laborer/Heavy Equipment Operator to perform skilled and semi-skilled work in operating heavy and light motorized equipment for construction, maintenance and repair projects of the Highway Department as well as to perform all related work as required including snow removal. License requirements include Massachusetts CDL Class B and Hoisting 2A, or ability to obtain within 3 mo. of hire. Ideal candidate will possess working knowledge of highway equipment operation and mechanics, construction and maintenance procedures, the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the trade. Ideal candidate will also have the ability to carry out oral and written instructions, follow proper methods, procedures and safety precautions, and perform heavy manual labor under varying weather conditions. Salary \$23.05-\$28.79 DOQ/DOE. Excellent benefits. Submit cover letter and resume or an application found at <https://www.monson-ma.gov/town-treasurer/news/employment-opportunities> to the Monson Treasurer's Office, 110 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057, via email to astaples@monson-ma.gov or fax (413) 238-6127. Position posted until filled. The Town of Monson is an AA/EEO Employer.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: The New Braintree Public Library is seeking a Library Director to lead our small library's growth in new and engaging services for our community. The Library Director is responsible for all phases of Library operations, working 10 - 15.5 hours a week with some evening and Saturday hours. Requirements: BA or BS or ALA accredited MLS or MLIS. If no ALA accreditation, State Certification of Librarianship from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners or willingness to obtain said certification, familiarity with C/W MARS, strong communication and IT/technical skills, enthusiasm, and self-motivation, an appreciation of the role the library plays in a community, and an enjoyment of people of all ages. The selected candidate will be expected to attend training workshops on library skills and Board of Trustees meetings. Send letter of application, resume, and three work-related references to Christine Maio, Trustee Chair, New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531 by June 21, 2021.

SPRAY INSULATION COMPANY looking to hire!! No experience necessary but a plus. Vehicle and license definitely a plus. Call (508)885-3753

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM SUMMER BASKETBALL SCOREKEEPERS - PART-TIME Looking for several reliable Summer Basketball Scorekeepers. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Open Until Filled. EOE

WELL ESTABLISHED WESTERN MA GENERAL CONTRACTOR seeking highly motivated hands-on Supervisor to oversee filed personnel and subcontractors on various commercial projects. Construction Supervisor's License, OSHA 30 & Hydraulics License Preferred. Salary is commensurate with experience. Email resume to pjic@abuilders.com

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

COMMERCIAL STORAGE SPACE on the Granby/Belchertown Line. New construction, Approx. 600sf with 11'6" ceilings. 10' wide by 9' high garage door and a single pedestrian door. Parking lot is paved. \$475/month. 12 month minimum lease. Call (413)315-1614

FOR RENT APPROXIMATELY 800 SQ. FT. WITH EASY ACCESS. Good for storage etc. Also have approximately 1600 Sq. Ft. unit with street level entrance. Call (413)967-7772 for more information. Reasonable rent.

INDUSTRIAL ZONED LARGE WAREHOUSE available, plus 500 sq.ft. out building, large garage bay and front office area, Breckenridge St., Palmer (413)231-3131

LOTS FOR SALE

BELCHERTOWN: OASIS DRIVE OFF MUNSELL ROAD. Only 3 Scenic Lots remain (A, K & P) in a subdivision of high-end homes. All Lots, perked with utilities to site. The lots range in price from \$104,900 to \$124,900. Also available is an additional 28.5 acres locate on Munsell Road with approximately 660 feet of approved road frontage. There are also 2 lots on this site surveyed and perked. Sale Price \$350,000. Call Richard Barry, Broker at 413-302-0377.

FOR RENT



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REAL ESTATE

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newly renovated 2 BR apt. porch, off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$925/ mo includes heat. No Pets. Call Tom 413-896-1555

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Ware, MA



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SECURE STORAGE Winter Special. Rent a 5'x10' 2 month free payment up front, 3rd month free. Call Mary (413)531-3722

VACATION RENTALS

WARM WEATHER IS Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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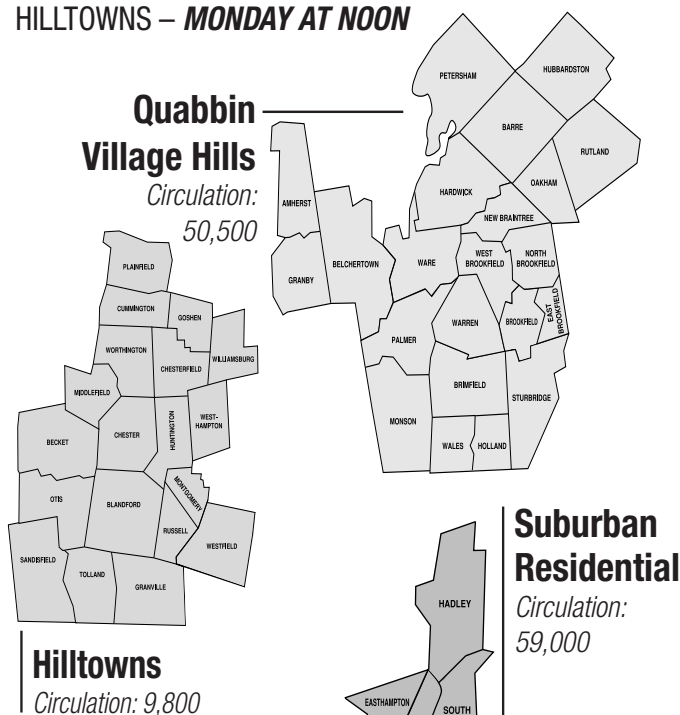
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES:

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON**
HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

| CATEGORY: | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Base Price \$26.00 |
| 21 Base Price \$26.50 | 22 Base Price \$27.00 | 23 Base Price \$27.50 | 24 Base Price \$28.00 |
| 25 Base Price \$28.50 | 26 Base Price \$29.00 | 27 Base Price \$29.50 | 28 Base Price \$30.00 |
| 29 Base Price \$30.50 | 30 Base Price \$31.00 | 31 Base Price \$31.50 | 32 Base Price \$32.00 |
| 33 Base Price \$32.50 | 34 Base Price \$33.00 | 35 Base Price \$33.50 | 36 Base Price \$34.00 |
| 37 Base Price \$34.50 | 38 Base Price \$35.00 | 39 Base Price \$35.50 | 40 Base Price \$36.00 |

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**
Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to mharrison@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

Editor's note: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, events featured in the Journal Register, including those previewed in stories, briefs and on the calendar page, may be canceled with little notice. The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in a Word doc or as email text – no PDFs, please – to mharrison@turley.com).

NOW

CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP at 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer, is having a Grand Reopening and rummage sale on select clothing Fridays and Saturdays during June 10 a.m.-2 p.m. More bargains are still available on household items, linens, books, crafts, and other clothing. Call 283-6958 for more information.

VACCINATED LUNCH: the Holland Senior Center is holding an on-house lunch with entertainment at noon June 16. The cost is \$5 or \$3 for Holland seniors. RSVP, ASAP for your bBoiled kKielbasa lunch and hot fFudge sundaes to celebrate Father's Day (everyone gets one)! Spaces will go quickly. Take-out orders will still be available but pick up time will be at 11:45 a.m. Sign up on Myactivecenter.com or call 413-245-3163. If you are not vaccinated yet, don't worry, the center still loves you and you are absolutely invited! Troubadour Frank Pendola performs at 1 p.m. After a long absence, Frank is back. It will be so much fun to have live singing back at the Center. Come join the fun and feel free to sing along as he sings his unique blend of originals, oldies, and Italian/Irish Folk Songs! RSVP required.

This event is brought to you by a Cultural Grant.

DO YOU NEED OUTREACH ASSISTANCE? Call Brenda Palmer, outreach coordinator at 413-245-7108 ext. 115 for privacy or call/stop by the Center. Find out if you qualify for fuel or food assistance, transportation, as well as Aging in Place services. You might think you do not need it, but if you qualify for it, you certainly deserve it.

SOON

GOLF TOURNAMENT: Hitchcock Free Academy's Inaugural Golf Tournament: Fore a Good Cause. Saturday, June 26, at 7:30 a.m. at Heritage Country Club in Charlton. To register or sponsor a team, go to hitchcockacademy.org.

AT THE HOLLAND LIBRARY

The Holland Library is now full re-opened. Hours are 3-8 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

Coming this Summer: Tails and Tales Children's Summer Reading Program. Follow the Library on Facebook. Join the Community Book Club: The book club will meet online via Zoom. Copies of the monthly book selection, in a variety of formats, are available for curbside checkout at the library. Contact the Holland Community Center for more information by calling them at 413-245-3163. Like them on Facebook for updates. To Join the Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 736 9214 3025; Passcode: p95795.

SUMMER READING: The Holland Library has all the summer reading for Tantasqua High and Middle school students. Just ask at the desk!

ONGOING

CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP: Will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. Bargains are available on household items, clothing, shoes, children's items, linens, books, crafts, puzzles, and games. Call 283-6958 for more information.

EVERYONE INVITED TO AQUACISE: The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club at 91 Claudia's Way, Ludlow, offer Aquacise for residents of Monson, Palmer, Brimfield, Holland and Wales.

Aquacise will be offered 8-8:45 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Aquacise is a low-impact, full-body workout performed in the water to put less stress on your joints and muscles while building strength. To reserve a spot visit ludlowbgc.org and click on Adult Programs, or call Matt Thompson at 413-583-2072, ext. 122. For updates on the facility, register on the website to receive Club emails. The Club continues to make health and safety its No. 1 priority to ensure all visitors who enter the building have a clean and safe environment.

Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force consists of business owners, community members, survivors and allies. The Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force promotes education and awareness in the community while empowering, educating and providing resources to those who have been affected by domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence in Palmer or those who have found safety in Palmer. For help and meeting information, email palmerdvtf@gmail.com. All contact is confidential.

MUSIC LESSONS, YOGA AND MORE: Just because days are short, and the thermometer reads cold doesn't mean there's nothing to do. Hitchcock Academy constantly works with instructors to offer options to its community members. Look for upcoming classes in yoga, tai chi, meditation, and fencing. Hitchcock Academy follows all current COVID guidelines for cleaning and social distancing and anyone using the facility must wear a mask.

All information regarding current class offerings, events, and registration are available at hitchcockacademy.org.

FREE FOOD PROGRAM: The Massachusetts Military Support Foundation has found a way to get food to families that need it. The Farmers to Families program, set up by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is part of a Coronavirus Food Assistance Program that help people all over the nation and has a site in Springfield open to all residents. The program will supply food kits with fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products and meat products that distributes package into family-sized boxes. You can register for your food kit at mmsfi.org. On the website choose "Springfield, Ma" as your pick up site and sign-up. Register for one week or all four with easy one time registration. Food kit includes fresh dairy, protein, and produce totaling 30+ pounds of food. Military families are encouraged to sign-up but registration is open to the public.

BOOKSTORE at the Unitarian Universalist Parish of Monson at the corner of Lincoln and Main streets in Monson is open the first Friday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Books priced from 25 cents to \$1 each: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, horror, mystery, science fiction, how-to, classic literature, children's books, romances, cookbooks, gardening books and more. All proceeds benefit the parish. Donations are accepted. Call Mary at 267-9952 for more information. While currently closed, we are anticipating reopening later this year.

LEARN ABOUT LOCAL HISTORY: Want to learn more about local history? The Elbow Plantation Historical Society is available for research and other information. They can be reached at elbow.plantation@gmail.com. Send them your questions and comments and leave your preferred contact information and they will respond asap.

THE MONSON LIONS CLUB has a 20-foot x 20-foot tent for rent. The cost is \$75 for a two-day event. The club will put it up and take it down. For more details, contact Curt at 413-668-6653.

DAY SPRING LODGE A.F. & A.M. located 14 Bliss St., Monson is making its hall available for rent for \$75 for a variety of parties and functions. For reservations, call Doug Battige at 413-267-5855 or 413-265-9398.

RESERVE YOUR CELEBRATION TENT now for your First Communion, bridal and baby showers, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties or any other kind of celebration you may have outdoors. The Palmer Lions Club has a tent for you, either 20-feet x 20-feet for \$125 or 20-feet x 40-feet for \$200. This includes setup and takedown in the Palmer area. Call Karen at 413-813-8445 to make a reservation. You may need to leave a message and your call will be returned. The Palmer Lions Club tent rental fees go towards assistance for the people of Palmer, Bondsville, Three Rivers and Thorndike.

SALVATION ARMY ASSISTANCE: Residents of Palmer, Thorndike, Bondsville and Three Rivers seeking emergency help with fuel assistance, utility payments/shut off, food, and clothing can contact the Salvation Army in Canton, MA at 339-502-5900. This is the office located in Canton, MA. If eligible, staff there will be able to

address your concerns and provide assistance until the local Palmer office is once again staffed by a volunteer outreach coordinator.

MAKE A DONATION to the Monson Free Library in honor of a special person or family member, in the form of a book, DVD or CD, audio book or magazine subscription. The person will receive a letter informing them of your gift. The cost of donations is \$25 for a book, \$20 for a CD or DVD, \$100 for an audio book and \$20 for a magazine subscription. For more information call 267-3866.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP Please join us at 6 p.m. every first Thursday of the month at Palmer Healthcare Center, 250 Shearer St. Palmer. Light refreshments will be served Contact Kate Martin at 413-283-8361 for more information.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED Who is Jesus? What did he achieve? How should we respond? "Christianity Explored" is a study which seeks to answer these questions from the Gospel of Mark. The course involves seven weekly one-hour sessions using Bible study, related DVD viewing, and discussion of the pertinent passages. For more information contact Mal at 413-250-8548.

MONSON DEMOCRATS WANTED by the Monson Democratic Town Committee. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month over Zoom. Contact Chair Karen Nothe-Valley at 413-846-3041 or karen_monsondem@yahoo.com.

WEEKLY CLASSES at Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling 413-245-3163 and a \$2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. is yoga class with Mah Jongg, and Monday evenings at 6 p.m. is Texas Hold 'Em. Tuesdays at 10 a.m. is the Coffee Social which is open to everyone, and Open Crafts are held on Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Zumba is held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg is at 1 p.m. and Yoga is at 5 p.m., plus Pitch at 6:30 p.m. Stained glass is every Thursday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. and Cribbage is weekly on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. Walking Club is on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The Billiard Room is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For everyone. For more information, call 413-245-3163.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS is a nonprofit fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. The group is comprised of recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Local meetings are held every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at The Living Room of Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park St., Ware; every Monday at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 22 Green St., Monson; Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Belchertown United Congregational Church, 18 Park St., Belchertown; every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and the Palmer Historical & Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers; and every Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. For more information or to find additional meetings throughout the New England area, visit www.nerna.org.

PALMER FOOD SHARE, INC., an emergency food pantry, is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Food Share is located at 39 Walnut St. in Palmer. Call 283-3614 with questions or to order to pick up food.

AL-ANON FRIDAY NIGHT BOOK STUDY meetings - a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve our common problems. We believe alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery. Al-Anon has one purpose, to help families and friends of alcoholics. The group meets Fridays at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

GREENE ROOM PRODUCTIONS is seeking people who would like to support the arts by being a part of its fundraising committee/booster club. The club is looking to fundraise, find sponsors, donors, and underwriters for upcoming productions, workshops, and educational opportunities. All interested individuals are invited to the next board meeting. If you are interested in being a part of Greene Room Productions or for more information, contact Erin Greene at (413) 668-7284 as soon as possible.

FREE HEALTH SERVICES are available at the Monson Council on Aging from 9-11:30 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Services include a free blood pressure and glucose check. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 267-4121. Walk-ins are welcome.

FAMILY GAMBLING-ANON GROUP on the first and third Monday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Haynes Chapel (behind the sanctuary) at Sturbridge Federated Church at Maple Street and Route 131 in Sturbridge. For those interested in gaining more support to promote your gambling recovery. To join this new group, call Doug at 508-887-1696 or Dee at 508-347-2122 or just come to the meeting.

LIBRARY LOFT Used Book Store at Schoolhouse Commons, 1085 Park St. (Route 20) in Palmer. Regular winter hours are: Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or at the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition. For more information, call 283-3330, ext. 100, or visit www.palmer.lib.ma.us.

THE MONSON COUNCIL ON AGING Meals on Wheels drivers deliver delicious home cooked meals to Monson Seniors (age 60+) in their homes every Monday through Friday. Seniors who could benefit from receiving a home delivered meal are those just returning from a stay in the hospital, rehab unit or nursing home, those who live by themselves and find it difficult to get out, and frail seniors who are alone much of the day while family members are at work. The Meals on Wheels program provides seniors with a daily hot nutritious meal, and a friendly visitor during the middle of the day. Meals can be ordered every day, or only as needed. Call the Monson Senior Center at 267-4121, for more info and to enroll. The requested donation is \$2.50 per meal. The Monson COA Nutrition Program is funded, in part, by a grant from Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.

THE MONSON ARTS COUNCIL is seeking new members. One does not have to be a resident of the town of Monson to become a member. The Arts Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the arts to Monson and the region and it depends upon membership dues for support and the ability to provide various programs. The public is welcome to attend the council's monthly meetings, held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the House of Art. The council welcomes new program ideas and participation in all activities. For more info, call 267-9764.

GED MATH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Top Floor Learning, Inc. at the Palmer Public Library is accepting applications for helping adults pass the GED Math test. Adults who have a high school diploma and good math skills in algebra, geometry, and word problems are eligible to apply. Call 283-2329 for info.

A SUPPORT GROUP FOR COMPULSIVE GAMBLERS, Gam-Anon of Longmeadow, invites all family and friends of people with gambling addictions to its weekly meetings. The Gam-Anon group meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the First

Church of Christ, 763 Longmeadow Street (corner of routes 5 & 192) in Longmeadow. For more info, visit www.gam-anon.org, or call (800) 266-1908.

INTERESTS

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM at 35 Ely Rd., Monson is closed until further notice due to the continuation of the COVID 19 pandemic. There will be no meetings, tours, events or programs. They are hoping to hold the Concert on the Lawn in August. Nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the sign posts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khn@keephomesteadmuseum.org. Visit their new website, where you can take a virtual tour, at keephomesteadmuseum.org.

THE QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD is looking for new members. The Guild meets on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the basement of the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. The membership fee is \$48 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow us on Facebook.

MONSON WOODWACKERS wood carving club meets every Thursday at Monson Senior Center on Main Street in Monson from 6-8 p.m. The club meets throughout the year. Membership is \$10 for the year, payable in September. Anyone interested should call Barbara Mackintosh at 413-237-8303. There are many beginner projects and experienced teachers, as well, within the club.

STAINED GLASS MAKING CLASS will be held on Thursdays at the Holland Community Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Glass and tools are supplied. Take six classes for \$48. Class sizes are limited and are open to all ages. For more information call Tom Baltazar at 508-245-2525.

DIAMOND NATIONAL/CASCADES DIAMOND. Did you every work there? Former employees meet on the third Tuesday of every month at Burgundy Brook Restaurant on Route 181 in Palmer from 9-10 a.m. The stories shared are often colorful but old friendships are renewed.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email mharrison@turley.com.

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MONSON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



Valedictorian Samantha Moyer and Salutatorian Cameron Boucher share a moment during commencement.



Class President Olivia Colling



An annual tradition: Personalized mortarboards for commencement.



Principal William Metzger



Prescott Watson gets a handshake from Anthony DeCasse (seated, left) while walking up to accept his diploma.



A member of the Class of 2021 in a moment of reflection.

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tainty and disagreements? Remember: our differences and the strength we draw from them and contribute to one another are what make this country the greatest in the history of the world. As you embark on your life's journey, seek to unite, not to divide; seek to heal, not to harm; and to understand and not to judge. In his book, 'The Four Agreements,' author Miguel Ruiz shares what he believes are the cornerstones of a meaningful and happy life. Those agreements are to be impeccable with your word, don't take anything personally, don't make assumptions, and always do your best."

Metzger urged the departing seniors to go through life with empathy and thoughtfulness and to resist the urge to see themselves through the filter of others.

"Being impeccable with your word to me means being careful, thoughtful and deliberate in what you say to say what you mean and mean what you say, being honest with yourself and others, and to avoid speaking in anger with the intention of only hurting other people. Being impeccable with your word means mastering this very basic and often elusive statement. 'I was wrong and I apologize.' Stop and consider: is what I'm going to say helpful or not? Am I only pointing out obstacles and problems, or am I bringing solutions to the table?" Metzger said.

"Our shared experience over the last year-and-a-half has reminded all of us of the power of our words. Make a commitment to yielding that power carefully and only in ways that will enrich yourself and those around you. Often when we're having a bad day or experience, it can feel like the whole world is against us. It is not. Often in life there are events simply beyond our own or anyone else's control. I think the pandemic has helped remind

all that each of us are fighting a battle or battles every day that others have no idea about. We all have challenges and struggles, and when we find ourselves distracted, emotional and not in our best, try to keep this in mind when you're having a negative interaction or experience with others. Be empathetic to yourself and others. You have just completed the phase of your life in which you answer to other people. Moving forward it's the 'You Show.'

"Only one person's opinion of you matters now and you see them in the mirror every day. Sir Anthony Hopkins once said, it's none of my business what people say of me and think of me. I am what I am and I do what I do. I expect nothing and accept everything that makes life so much easier."

In his closing remarks, Metzger reminded students that disagreement doesn't have to be a wedge that divides, but rather an opportunity for dialogue that draws people closer.

"It does not make you good or them bad or vice versa — just different, and that is OK," he said. "When did having different ideas become such a bad thing in our society?"

Before projecting his hope for the future and the Class of 2021's role, Metzger brought up a traumatic event from Monson's past, when the seniors were still in elementary school — the June 1, 2011 tornado.

"I believe there will be a new 'Roaring 20s,' he said.

"Ten years ago, this community showed one another what strength, compassion, generosity, and determination are all about. Here is your chance once again now as adults to show the world what being 'Monson Strong' is all about."

VALEDICTORIAN SAMANTHA MOYER

"I've known most of you since preschool or kindergarten. Even if we didn't know each other well, we all knew of each other. For those of you who joined us somewhere along the way, it probably didn't take long for everyone to know you. This is one of the beauties of going to a small school in a small town. And whether we want to stay here or leave, we will all carry a piece of Monson with us throughout our lives. Making it this far, especially considering the circumstances, is something to be proud of. As Abigail Adams said, 'Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and diligence.'

"We already have proven ourselves capable of overcoming adversity and striving for greatness. But it shouldn't stop here. I hope that we all take Ris in life and aren't afraid to be ambitious. That we don't let fear get the best of us because we will regret it. I hope that we think about all the people who have helped us get here — especially our loved ones around us now. We owe it to them to give life everything we've got."

SALUTATORIAN CAMERON BOUCHER

If I had known four years ago what I know now, I would tell all of us to think about the present. High school is a unique time in our lives, one which we only get to experience for a brief four years, and then it's over. It's a time where we all grow, learn, and find ourselves. But despite it being over, and many of us probably feeling a mixture of relief and anxiety over it, it's great to stop and take a look back. To remember World Civ II with Mr. Roebuck

class. But as much as it's nice to think about the past, we can remember those things forever. But we only get to live today.

"So, in taking my own advice, let's focus on today. Today is a day of 'nevers': never going to have class with our favorite teachers, never going to sit in the gym for one of our assemblies, never going to hear Mr. Fletcher say 'It's that magical time of day again folks.' But not all of the nevers are bad. We're never going to be naive little children again, never going to back down from a challenge, and never going to forget the memories we had and the lessons we learned. Today, we hold the future in our hands. For the first time in our lives, have the incredible opportunity that tomorrow holds whatever we say it does. We've reminisced on the past, we've appreciated the present, so now let's look to the future."

CLASS PRESIDENT OLIVIA COLLING

"It seems like just yesterday we were little freshmen walking in clumps through the halls as seniors and juniors streamed by, cursing our slowness. It seems like mere hours ago we were shoved into the basement of the school, fiddling with the locks on the lockers I am pretty sure we never used. Just yesterday, we were simply along for the ride, but today we are the ones driving our own lives, and creating our own futures.

The moment we have all been looking forward to since we first stepped foot into Monson High is finally here, but I feel that the best thing to do at the moment may be to look back at the past. I ask you all, fellow graduates, to reflect back on a specific moment during our last four years of high school, whether it be our very first Winter Carnival, where I am pretty sure we lost every single competition, to the Halloween dance sophomore year, to the chaos of online learning throughout the tail end of our junior year, or even to our senior year activities. So much has happened throughout our high school years, both positive and negative, but I feel that all of it has impacted us for the better, and has helped morph us into the people we are today. I am not sure where we are all going to end up ten, five or even one year from now, but I know for certain that we will all remember our time together at Monson High School.

"As I am sure you can imagine, for each and every graduate here today, there are multiple people in their corner who have supported them in at least a dozen different ways, and for that I am sure we are all extremely grateful. I want to wish you all the best in whatever comes next in your lives, and as Henry Thoreau once said, 'go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.'

and how he would always walk around swinging a golf club during lectures. To remember algebra and thinking we were all so smart when Mr. Sitnik had us figure out how to find the quadratic formula. To remember feeling so awkward acting out scenes from 'Romeo and Juliet' in Mrs. Walker's English

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